

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LXVIII.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER, 1908.

No. 10

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Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of the 7th August and the parcel Mail which closed in London for despatch by the all sea route on the 29th July, and for despatch overland on the 5th August arrived per s.s. Devanha on the 2nd inst.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Mr. Frederick D. Cloud has been appointed American Consul at Antung, Manchuria.

A very successful Bazaar has been held by the Chinese at Swatow in aid of the West River Flood Funds.

A Chinaman has been sentenced in Manila to six months' imprisonment for smuggling 150 cans of opium into the islands.

Cholera is decreasing in the Philippines. Only 19 cases and 15 deaths were reported last Saturday from the four districts affected.

Marriage Reform is the latest undertaking of the Chinese Government. Chang Chih Tung is an active supporter of this reform.

Mr. W. Martin, American Consul General at Hankow, has returned from the United States after several months' leave of absence at home.

Mr. Taka-akira Kato, ex-minister for Foreign Affairs, and formerly Japanese Minister in London, will probably succeed Baron Komura as Ambassador to Great Britain.

Rear-Admiral Mattusevitch, at present Commandant of the port of Vladivostok, has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of Russia's Naval forces in the Far East (!)

The Governor of Kwangsi, Chang Ming-oh'i, has reported to the Peking Government that over six hundred rebels have been decapitated in his province since last January.

The Nanking City Railway was opened on the 26th ult. with great éclat. The correspondent of the N.C. Daily News says the road is well built and reflects great credit on all concerned.

The residence of Mr. J. E. de Becker at Kamakura, Japan, has been destroyed by fire. The loss is very heavy and among the property destroyed was a fine library and a valuable collection of curios.

The *Tageblatt* states that Mr. Otto Kleemann, late of the firm of Walte & Co., has been appointed commercial advisor to the German Legation at Peking; and returns there from Europe very shortly.

This year for the first time since American occupation the number of departures of Chinese from the Philippines has exceeded the arrivals. In fact statistics show a decided decrease in the Chinese population, says the *Manila Cablenews*.

"In consequence of the excessive heat prevailing," the Foreign Exchange Banks at Hankow are now open for public business from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily. The hours were curtailed at the suggestion of the Chamber of Commerce.

The seaside resort of Shanhaikwan is unusually animated this season. The British and French Military bands play every evening, and sometimes during the afternoon. The presence of numerous officers' families renders the place quite lively.

Freiherr von Gebtsattel, German Consul at Nanking is transferred as Consul to Fiume. Freiherr von Loehneysen, Consul at Hankow, has obtained home leave and left for Germany. Vice-Consul Freiherr von Mueffling has been appointed Acting Consul in his place.

The British Post Office at Shanghai announces in the Shanghai papers that all correspondence intended for transmission to Europe via Siberia and so endorsed, will in future be forwarded by the new route via Dalny, unless especially superscribed "via Vladivostok."

Cholera seems to be rife in the Yangtse ports. Dr. G. F. Stooke, L.R.C.P., who was the Customs Medical Officer at Ichang, died there recently from cholera. The comrade of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., at that port has also died from cholera.

M. Greoier Belgian Minister, has sent a despatch to the Wai-wu-pu intimating that his Government is desirous of acquiring a Belgian Settlement at Hankow, in view of the recent expansion of Belgian trade and interests in that region. The Wai-wu-pu is awaiting a report on the suggestion from the Viceroy of the Hu-Kwang Provinces.

A Tokyo telegram to the *Daily Press* states that the Government has issued a programme of financial retrenchment. Various public works, estimated to cost two hundred million yen, have been postponed, and a sum of fifty million yen is to be set aside annually for the redemption of the national debt. The National Railways are placed to a special account. It is probable that the harbour improvement works at Kobe and Yokohama will also be postponed.

A Mr. E. C. Fowler, a former resident of Shanghai, is returning from Canada with the object of developing a trade in Canadian horses and cattle. The prices paid in China for Australian horses and cattle are described as "enormous," and it is calculated that the shorter sea voyage from Vancouver and the lower cost of the animals from North-West Canada are factors which promise great success for the project, which is stated to have a good backing in China.

The Exhibition originally arranged to be held in Tokyo in 1912, has been postponed until 1917. The Municipal Council of Tokyo has passed a resolution protesting against the postponement, and demanded the return of the 1,370,000 Yen contributed by the Council towards the exhibition fund. They also refused to co-operate with the promoters of the exhibition in 1917, and demanded that compensation should be paid to people who have been dispossessed of land on the Aoyama site. The announcement has occasioned great public resentment.

A report of a steamer foundering in a typhoon on August 26th, near the Goto Islands, in the Korean Channel, west of Kyushu, is confirmed. The steamer, telegraphs our Tokyo correspondent, was the "Dunearn," commanded by Captain Graham, and bound for Singapore. Two British survivors out of a crew of 55 were rescued by a Japanese steamer and landed at Moji. The rest are believed to have perished. The "Dunearn" was a steamer of 2,020 net tons belonging to the Dunedin Steamship Co., of Leith. She was built of steel at Sunderland in 1895, and was formerly called "Avery Hill."

Tientsin, like most of the China ports, is not so flourishing now as it has been during the last few years. That house rents are gradually coming down, is amply proved, says a Tientsin contemporary, by the few houses which have been let lately at rents some 25 per cent. less than has been the rate obtainable for the last few years. In one case we know of, a large 6-roomed fully-furnished house, which last year would have commanded Tls. 150 a month easily, is still unlet though only Tls. 60 is asked for it. Small houses still fetch a reasonable rate; but for the larger ones there is no foreign demand; and they can only be let to Chinese officials.

Sir Pelham Warren, K.C.M.G., Consul-General, and the Hon Charles Denby, Consul-General for the United States of America, the Joint Trustees for the Central China Famine Relief Fund, on August 25 dispatched to H. M. Consul-General at Canton a draft for \$81,963.47 representing Shanghai Tls. 62,844.83, the balance remaining to the credit of the Famine Fund which is now in their hands. H. E. Sheng Kung-Pao and the Shanghai Taotai have addressed to them a request that the funds at their disposal might be devoted to the relief of the sufferers from the famine in the South of China, and they have decided that the funds may properly be devoted to this cause.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES.

(Daily Press, September 1st.)

If the Olympic Games just concluded were marred by the dissension which occurred at the final stages, they, nevertheless, demonstrated the international basis on which sport now stands. No longer is any one nation isolated. No longer does any particular people confine themselves to the exercises and pastimes peculiar to their own land. No, they have borrowed from one another. Football and golf were given by Scotland to the world; cricket has been taken from England; tennis (originating in France) is now played in many countries; jiu-jitsu is to-day practised in other countries than Japan; Chinese boys are not the only ones to fly kites, and we have just to reflect a little to remember how many of our childhood's games may be traced to Eastern sources. Naturally this appreciation of the sports and games of other peoples was bound to have an excellent effect. It helped to emphasise how much the different races had in common, and when sportsmen ventured from one country into another to win renown in the particular field of sport which they had made their own, the movement towards international amity received a tremendous impetus.

It is frequently said that "all the world loves a lover," but it may be just as truthfully said that all the world loves a sport. The sportsman is the same all the world over. He is ready to give and take hard knocks; where there is a fight he wants to see the combatants evenly matched, and in every form of exercise and skill in which men pit themselves against one another he desires to obtain a fair field and no favour. For years Britons have enjoyed a pre-eminent reputation not only for love of sport but for "playing the game." Now, however, their good name is being called in question and by none more vigorously than their American cousins who came over to uphold their country's reputation on the cinder track and on the grass in the Stadium in London. Having regard to the value of sport in promoting international friendship the incident alluded to can only be regarded with the greatest regret inasmuch as it retards the progress towards a better understanding between the nations and creates an ill-feeling which it will take years to eradicate. The unhappy contingency would have been trifling at an ordinary sports meeting, but it has been magnified in importance because it has occasioned a dispute between British and Americans, and unfortunately newspapers on both sides of the Atlantic have fanned the flames of jealousy so strongly that a feeling of prejudice has been engendered in both countries.

The Olympic Games attracted sportsmen and sportswomen from all parts of the world. This grand gathering of the world's greatest athletes since the revival of the historic feature of ancient Greece has been productive of better results than the attainments which marked the previous games held at Athens in 1896, Paris in 1900, St. Louis in 1904, and Athens in 1906. Men attended from all parts of the earth, but no complaints as to unfairness were made by others than Americans. Of course, it may be that only Americans had cause for complaint. However, we have the facts that complaints were made by the Americans and allegations were made as to the methods of Americans. The recriminations became mutual. Now, it is always safe to assume that in most quarrels neither party is absolutely without blame. One may be more blameworthy than the other, and when a decision has to be arrived at, the

judge has to ascertain who has the balance of right. In the recent misunderstanding we may equally well infer that there were faults on both sides. For example the Americans, in support of their contention, point to the Marathon Race and its sensational termination. DORANDO, the Italian, collapsed at the finishing post and was assisted over the line by the officials. Such intervention would appear to be against the rules, but it seems to us that the mistake was not made by the officials who performed this well-meant act, but by the judge who declared him to be the winner. When a man fainted on the course it was the obvious duty of those near at hand to render what assistance they could and what more natural than that they should conduct him forward so as not to impede the other competitors? To award him the race was, of course, a grave error of judgment on the part of those responsible and the American protest was certainly justified. But the same cannot be said of their attitude in the four hundred metre race. In that event the only English competitor complained of having been "bored" by an American rival, and as the judges who went into all the details of the race were agreed that Carpenter fouled Halswell, and ordered the race to be run over again, the Americans ought to have accepted that decision. The report of the judges on the matter is sufficiently convincing. To us the explanation of the American attitude seems to be due to the fact that the representatives of the United States did not understand the conditions under which they were competing. In proof it is only necessary to refer to the statement attributed to the American Commissioner to the Games. Alluding to this race, he is reported to have said, "the public had been inflamed against the Americans, and the judges, taking a signal from some man on the field, broke the tape and called the race off before they knew what had happened." Exactly. The judges took a signal from one of the many officials posted along the course to watch for irregularities. Immediately anything of that nature was detected by an official it was his duty to announce it, and in the interests of the competitors themselves, to prevent them from needlessly exerting themselves when the issue would not be decided in that struggle, the race was stopped. Accepting the details as given in the American press it seems quite clear that the protestants had no ground for complaint as to unfair treatment, at least so far as the management of the race was concerned. The fact that the officials who considered the protest went over the course and traced the foot-steps, thereby obtaining evidence which could not be controverted, shows that they acted bona fide. Of course, if the American competitors thought they were not being properly treated, their protest was quite proper, but in this case the facts do not justify it. That, however is only one incident. There may have been others which induced the Americans to feel as they did but, whatever the actual circumstances may have been, there can be no doubt that a breach has been opened in international athletics which will take some time to heal. All who have the interests of sport at heart, as well as those who desire a good understanding between men of all nations, will regret the occurrence. We realise there may be some reason to suspect that the local associations who had the management of the programme assigned them by the Olympic Association were prejudiced in favour of the men they knew, but we think the Americans have only themselves to blame for being watched so closely and so narrowly. Uncle Sam has

a reputation for 'cuteness and not unnaturally when an American is in the field his rivals watch him with some anxiety wondering what he will be "up to." We would not describe it as mistrust, but the man from the West having shown such wonderful resource, others who are competing feel that they have to exercise more alertness than if they were competing against men from other countries. In other words the Americans suffer from the defects of their qualities. If they realised this it might help them to understand the attitude of the British at times, but at any rate there is little good to be done by indulging in recriminations. We hope that the future will give the sportsmen of both countries opportunities for discovering the best in each other and that on the track or in the ring they will experience that "stern joy which warriors feel in foemen worthy of their steel."

JAPANESE FINANCE.

(Daily Press, 2nd September.)

The official announcement telegraphed by our Tokyo correspondent that the Japanese Cabinet has decided on heavy retrenchments in their financial programme will, we imagine, go far to restore public confidence in the administration. At Home as well as abroad confidence has been perceptibly weakening, but it is probable that the retrenchment scheme will not be considered wholly satisfactory in Japanese business circles. About the time of the resignation of the late Cabinet we drew attention to a remarkable statement of views published by the United Chambers of Commerce in Japan with regard to the Government's financial administration. One of the prominent features of that document was its condemnation of excessive expansion of armaments, and it will be noted and, no doubt, freely commented upon in Japan, that the announced retrenchments are for "public works" and will not affect the programme laid down for military and naval expansion. But those who have been carefully watching the latest Russian projects for the Far East and the feverish haste with which they are being advanced, will see in it all some reason for the Japanese Cabinet's refusal to consent to any curtailment or postponement in this direction. Apparently the Cabinet has had the matter under consideration and distinct avowals were appearing in the vernacular press a short time ago that certain military undertakings would be postponed. But during the last six months or so much has happened in Russia to foster a belief in the "Coming Struggle," which is so often described as inevitable; and it is not improbable that Russia's Amur project and subsidiary plans to which so much publicity has been given have weighed against any curtailment of Japan's plans for strengthening her naval and military defences. It is a well-worn maxim that the best guarantee of peace is to be fully prepared for war, but the trouble is that no nation ever reaches that state, and the burden of armaments increases in all advanced countries year by year, notwithstanding *ententes* and the general confession of peaceful intentions. Japan feels the strain upon her resources, but her statesmen are evidently of opinion that they cannot afford to relax their efforts to maintain and improve the country's position as a military and naval power. The military expansion schemes therefore are left untouched, and savings to the amount of two hundred million yen are to be effected by postponing harbour

improvements and other undertakings of a like nature. No authoritative announcement has yet been made of the postponement of the Grand Exhibition arranged to be held in 1912, but the report has been circulated that this was one of the projects the Government proposed to sacrifice for a time, and it has evoked very strong criticism. Our Tokyo correspondent's telegram did not mention this as one of the proposals announced by the Government, and possibly this question has been reserved for further consideration. A proposal to postpone the Exhibition evokes general disapproval on the ground that the national prestige would suffer thereby, and opposition is threatened in the Diet if the Government put it forward for approval. Doubtless many other details in the Government's retrenchment scheme will evoke complaint and regret but the postponement of works estimated to cost £20,000,000 can hardly fail to be appreciated by the general body of taxpayers.

THE EXPANSION OF ARMAMENTS.

(Daily Press, September 3rd.)

We had occasion yesterday to allude to the protests voiced in Japan against the increasing burden of armaments. It may be remembered that a month ago it was telegraphically reported that 144 members of the British House of Commons had addressed to the Prime Minister a plea for reduction in expenditure on armaments. Yesterday's Mail brings the text of the remonstrance. The signatories remind Mr. Asquith of his Budget statement for the year 1906-7 in which he broadly surveyed the financial situation of the country in the hope that it would impress upon the House, as it had impressed upon himself, "a much-needed lesson." In that speech Mr. Asquith, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, pointed out that in the preceding ten years, while the population of the country had increased by only 10 per cent. the national expenditure on Imperial account had increased by 89 per cent., or over £40,000,000. Of this increase, "as much as £21,000,000 was to be put down to the army and navy. In 1896-7 the numbers voted for the army were 156,000, and the cost was £18,270,000. In 1906-7 the numbers voted were 204,000, and the cost was £29,796,000—an increase in numbers of over 30 per cent., and in cost of over 63 per cent. For the navy the numbers in 1896-7 were 91,500, and the cost was £22,170,000. In 1906-7 the numbers were 129,000, and the cost was £31,869,000—an increase in numbers of 41 per cent., and in cost of 43 per cent." This survey, the petitioners said, gave them a large part of the case they desired to present, and for the rest they based their plea, first, on the accepted principle that armaments depend upon policy; and, secondly, on the fact that since 1903 the United Kingdom had been pursuing with pre-eminent success a policy of peace. Under the guidance both of LORD LANSDOWNE and Sir EDWARD GREY relations had been established with foreign powers which have, by common consent, removed many of the dangers with which England has been confronted. The burden of their complaint is that there has been no corresponding reduction in expenditure.

In this connection we may direct attention to the speech which the KAISER has just made at Strasburg. His Majesty proclaims his firm conviction that the peace of Europe is not imperilled, but at the same time lays stress on the strength of the German people in

arms on land and sea as being an important factor in the maintenance of that peace, and finally declares that Germany is determined to maintain and develop her forces and interests without fear or favour. Herein lies the answer to the petition which the 144 members of the British House of Commons have addressed to the Prime Minister. So long as the other European Powers continue to develop their naval and military forces, no British Government is likely to be influenced by appeals for reductions. Successive Governments in England have committed themselves to the traditional measure of naval strength known as the two-Power standard, and if we may judge from recent telegrams foreshadowing a huge naval loan, the Government is, happily, in no frame of mind to depart from a tradition which the vast majority of the British public regards as eminently sound. A Service paper, we note, takes the Little Navy party to task for thinking that expenditure on armaments has anything to do with the increase or decrease of population, and tells these Socialistic-Radicals that they must really understand that we do not build one battleship to so many thousands of the population and so on down the naval scale. But we can give Mr. Asquith credit for being fully aware of that when he used the figures to illustrate the increasing burden of armaments. It may be perfectly true that to introduce a method of calculation in accordance with the relative size of the population defended, the British Empire with its 400,000,000 of inhabitants would need a force six and a half times the strength of Germany's; but the use of that method of calculation would, at the same time, imply that the cost of maintenance would be distributed according to population! The object of the petitioners evidently is not to preach either of these things, but simply to show that the cost of armaments to the 40,000,000 inhabitants of the United Kingdom has been growing enormously—and there is every likelihood of the burden increasing. The appeal for a reduction in expenditure will not succeed, we may be sure, so long as other Powers are increasing their naval forces, and the only hope of the British public for a lightening of the burden lies in the prospect of the Colonies bearing a larger share of it.

PIRACY ON THE WEST RIVER.

(Daily Press, 4th September.)

Notwithstanding that, according to a report mentioned by our Canton correspondent, there are now thirty Chinese "gunboats" patrolling the West River, piracy in the Canton Delta seems to be as rife as ever. Our correspondent reports daring piratical attacks on two launches plying between Canton and Waichow, in which several military officials and members of the crews are stated to have been brutally murdered, and the pirates, about 50 in number, were able to make away with about \$10,000 in money and much valuable merchandise. Our correspondent adds that the recent recrudescence of piracy in the Delta and brigandage on shore has been "abnormal," and that "it would fill a couple of columns every day if all the cases were reported." We presume it must have been some knowledge of this state of affairs that prompted the British Minister at Peking recently to inquire of the Chinese Government what steps had been taken to suppress piracy in the Canton Delta. If there are thirty Chinese gunboats patrolling the River, the Chinese Government is in a position to give Sir JOHN JORDAN a reply which on the face of it

appears to be highly satisfactory; but this satisfaction is heavily discounted by the news that piracy has again become abnormally prevalent. A flotilla of thirty gunboats, one would suppose, would be able to guarantee complete immunity from piracy on the River, but, large as it is, the flotilla must be regarded as a very ineffective force in view of what is reported to be daily taking place. Probably no one recognises this more clearly than the Chinese Admiral LI CHUN, who has recently been visiting Hong-kong to see how the four new gunboats, which are being built on the foreign model in the Colony's shipbuilding yards, are progressing. These four fast gunboats will in all probability do far more effective work than the whole of the thirty comprising the present fleet. All that can be said at present, in view of these reports from the West River, is that the Chinese authorities are endeavouring to fulfil the understanding on which Admiral MOORE withdrew the flotilla of three torpedo-boats, four destroyers and three river gunboats which he had detailed for patrol duty there in consequence of the attacks on launches flying the British flag, and the delay in settling the claim made upon the Chinese Government in respect of the piratical attack on the steamer *Sainam* the previous year. The combination of the British and Chinese naval forces, thus formed was certainly effective in putting a stop to piracy and giving to the shipping craft on the river a sense of security from attack. Although at the commencement of the British patrol, as the Commissioner of Customs at Canton reminds us in his annual report, there was much excitement among the HOTSAPUS in Canton City "the actual intercourse of the two patrolling fleets was marked by the utmost cordiality and goodwill. Commander B. L. MAJENDIE (*Cadmus*), the senior naval officer in charge of the British flotilla, and the Chinese Admiral handled the situation in a manner calculated to enhance the growing reputation of 'naval diplomacy' and there is every reason to hope that the object-lesson will not be lost on the Chinese Navy." It has evidently not been lost, but there is unhappily evidence also that a Chinese "naval demonstration" is not striking the same amount of terror into the hearts of the pirates and robbers that the British flotilla did. No doubt the recrudescence of piracy reported is attributable to a large extent to the destitution among the riverine population caused by the great floods, and "what is bred in the bone" may always be expected to show itself at such times. That, however, is only an argument for increased vigilance on the part of the naval police force.

With regard to the piracies now alluded to, we presume the cases are purely Chinese, and do not call for foreign intervention. We note that the Commissioner of Customs mentions that the direct intervention of the British Commander-in-Chief has been most useful in drawing official attention to the question of the status of foreign steam-launches in these waters; and "it is understood that the British authorities are contemplating some additional enactments to ensure the bona fides of claimants for the flag." The Commissioner adds: "If other foreign Governments elect to co-operate and to inquire more closely into the genuineness of ownership, the occasion for the present anomaly of foreign intervention to protect the lives and property of Chinese subjects from the depredations of native pirates may be expected to gradually disappear." The situa-

tion of the Powers concerned may well be directed to this matter, but the fact still remains that pirates, as experience has shown, are not very discriminating in these matters, and so long as piracy is rife, foreign shipping craft in the Delta will be just as liable to attack as Chinese craft. The state of affairs which our Canton correspondent represents clearly calls for the improvement, if not the strengthening, of the present patrol.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

Was it not surprising to find so many complaining of the heat during the last few days? Why, Saturday week, according to the Chinese calendar, was the official "stopping of heat," and how any one can have the effrontery to ignore the calendar in such a flagrant manner is hard to understand. No, no my dear friend, the summer swelter is over. Your thirst may be as great as ever it was, and your shirt may still be damp, but the fault must lie somewhere within yourself. Officially, summer is dead, and no self-respecting citizen would question the wisdom which fixed the limit up to which heat was to be experienced.

Swimming, always popular in Hongkong, is receiving more than ordinary attention just now. The latest performance to attract notice is that of the two young men at Kowloon Dock, McBride and Wilson, who swam from the Dock to Quarry Bay in an hour and twenty minutes a few evenings ago, and last Monday did the swim from the Dock to Blake Pier in an hour and eight minutes. A correspondent asks if this does not constitute a record. The harbour race in October 1906 was won by Gunner Brotherton in a little under twenty-eight minutes, but the distance from Hung Hom to Blake Pier is more than double the course covered by the competitors on the occasion of the harbour swim for the "China Mail" cup, and the time, if correct, must be regarded as extremely good. Indeed it may be questioned if any of the other swimmers in the colony could put up such a fine performance.

Some months ago the Sanitary Board had under consideration a bye-law framed with the object of stopping the beastly practice of expectoration, which is so common among Chinese coolies, but fancy the matter is still in the consideration stage. If I am mistaken I crave pardon at once. I am reminded of the subject not only by the frequent evidence of the need that one daily comes across, especially in the large office buildings, but by the fact that the Minor Offences Ordinance in the Straits Settlements is being amended by the introduction of a section designed to put a stop to the habit of spitting by making it an offence punishable by fine not exceeding \$25. The Bill has been read a first time.

I am glad to notice the truck nuisance has been partially suppressed. The manner in which these cumbersome vehicles with their small army of coolies straggling all over the road obstruct many thoroughfares is too well known to call for comment, but the obstruction was nowhere greater than in Ice House Street. That narrow thoroughfare was fearfully congested during the midday interval for tiffin and, when a few trucks blocked part of the road, rich has experienced difficulty in getting through while pedestrians risked injury in attempting the passage of the street. This intolerable state of affairs has been made the subject of representation to the police, and now the street may be entered with comparative safety at noon as a policeman stands at either end to prevent trucks from proceeding in that direction. Compliments to the Captain Superintendent!

Again the power of the press, especially the *Daily Press*, is demonstrated. A few weeks ago a correspondent suggested an organisation of all willing to assist in life-saving during typhoons; and while recognising that I am only a humble unit I gave the suggestion my approval. Now I see the Government have had the subject under consideration, and the result is a notice in the "Gazette" announcing

a proposal to form a life-saving corps. So far so good. If Government support meant success then there could be no doubt as to the formation and usefulness of the corps.

But there is another point of view, which was put to me something like this: Let a meeting of those interested be called. Then arrangements could be made for putting the corps on a proper basis, the voluntary nature of the movement being recognised, and whatever assistance was needed from Government could be doubtless obtained on representation to the proper quarter. But to exact a pledge from the volunteers to obey the orders of any official whom the Government might choose to select is to show a disregard of the voluntary spirit which animates the young men who are enthusiastic over the work.

Suppose now, continued my informant, showing greater heat and employing more vigorous language, there are a dozen of us at a particular station on the Praya and the petty official appointed by the paternal Government to take charge of us directs some of us to do a certain thing. He may or he may not lead the way himself, but what would the fellows say when they saw this official doing the Napoleonic while remaining in a place of safety? Would they not turn round and tell him to do it himself? No Sir! That plan won't work! Recognise the volunteer spirit. Let the corps select its leaders, who can arrange to co-operate with harbour officials or police, but don't kill the movement by putting it under the control of government officials who may be excellent fellows, but they never forget they are part of the government.

Is there a luxury under the sun which has not been asserted by somebody to be a necessity, or at least highly beneficial as a medicine? The *Daily Press* the other day was referring to a theory that opium-smoking came into popular use in China as an antidote to malaria. And did not Mrs. Telling, the Apothecary, tell Mrs. Samuel Pepys that tea was good for her cold and certain ailments peculiar to the ladies? As to wine, that, of course, was taken "for the stomach's sake." Tobacco reached Europe as a medicine. "It cureth anye griefe, dolour, imposture or obstruction proceeding of cold or winde, especially in the head or breast," declared one old chronicler. Sailors chewed it as a safeguard against scurvy. Smoked on a rainy morning in the summer months it would cure "toothache, the falling sickness, and the dropsie." As an ointment it was the deadly enemy of the gout. In the form of snuff it was supposed to vanquish headaches and strengthen the eyesight. As for whiskey-soda—"Here's to your very good health." There is no need to probe into ancient history to establish its claims to be regarded as a medicine.

RODERICK RANDOM.

CHINESE LADY SENT TO GAOL.

FOR CRUELTY TO A CHILD.

At the Magistracy on September 1st Mr. J. R. Wood passed an exemplary sentence on a Chinese lady who was found guilty of cruelty to a girl five years of age. The evidence showed that the child was sent out with defendant's baby, and in the course of a walk lost a gold bangle from the baby's wrist. On the return home, when the mistress found the bangle was missing, she seized the little girl and beat her with a piece of firewood, not desisting until she had made her black and blue all over. One blow, which was dealt on the child's head split the scalp, and even her face was seriously bruised and very much swollen. But this was not all; the enraged mistress then continued the assault on the child with a burning stick, and burnt her badly behind the ear. It was a distressful mite of humanity that was taken to the police station, and there, it is stated, the police found that the child had not been properly nourished.

His Worship sentenced the defendant to seven days' hard labour, and further ordered her to be bound over in a bond of \$20, two sureties, to be of good behaviour for six months.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Sept. 1st at the Board Room. Mr. O. McI. Messer (president), presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. Chatham (Vice-President), Hon. Mr. E. A. Irving, (Registrar-General), Messrs. A. Shelton Hooper, H. A. W. Slade, Lau Chu Pak, H. Humphreys, Dr. Pearse, (Medical Officer of Health), and the following officials: Dr. Macfarlane, (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), and A. Gibson (Secretary).

REMOVAL OF CEILINGS.

The report of the committee appointed to consider the question of the removal of ceilings and stair-linings was submitted. The Committee expressed the opinion that a scheme of a compulsory and systematic removal of ceilings and stair-linings should be adopted as a means of prevention of rat infestation subject to certain expenses being paid by the Government and the granting of exemptions in particular cases. The committee recommended the Board to make certain byelaws.

Mr. HOOPER minuted—This should not apply to European houses or offices. Two weeks' notice is too short.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—I do not think a distinction should be made. The committee to be appointed to carry out this work will, no doubt, see that justice is done and as little friction as possible caused.

The PRESIDENT moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK seconded.

Mr. HOOPER said he agreed with the report in the main, but he wished to move two amendments. He thought European houses and offices should be exempt, particularly offices, because there was no food nor anything stored in them to induce rats to go there. As to the notice, he suggested the time should be enlarged from two weeks. If the Board were to serve notices for all ceilings and stairlinings in the Colony, the result might be a wholesale lot of prosecutions which would not be entirely agreeable to the community, and he did not think the Board would wish to act in a harsh way. He would like to extend the time to two months.

Mr. SLADE seconded the amendment.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH thought, in order to guard against such a thing as Mr. Hooper mentioned, and this being more a matter for departmental procedure, that too many notices should not be served at the same time. That would be better than allowing people two months in which to take down their ceilings.

The PRESIDENT said people could not be reasonably expected to remove ceilings immediately, and as to European houses and offices, they were entirely under the Board, and the only way to work it was for the Board to appoint a committee to consider these regulations. It was so very hard to find what was a European house, and they had to draw the dividing line somewhere.

Mr. HOOPER suggested that the dividing line should be drawn at the European reservation.

The PRESIDENT said there was no intention whatever of removing the ceiling from good offices.

Mr. HOOPER said he would not press his first amendment, if power was to be reserved to the Board, or a committee of the Board, to grant exemption. With regard to the second amendment, two weeks instead of two months, with all due respect to the Medical Officer of Health, who said it was a matter in which the Department could exercise its discretion, he was jealous of giving the department any more power than they had, in case it might be abused by any officers coming hereafter. The present head would not abuse that power. He thought two months was not an unreasonable time. Notices could be served as soon as it became law, and then people could be allowed to apply for exemptions. If this were done he thought there would be no difficulty at all.

The PRESIDENT thought two months rather far ahead. He would agree to one month.

Mr. HOOPER—If they are going to send out 2,000 notices—

The PRESIDENT—I don't think the Board would be so foolish as to order so many ceilings to come down. The Department might.

Mr. HOOPER—Quite so.

The report was adopted, but the questions involved will be considered later.

RAT EXTERMINATORS.

Correspondence was submitted relative to the reports on experiments conducted in Indian laboratories on Indian field and house rats with Ratin No. 2.

The President in a communication to the Colonial Secretary asked permission to circulate the papers to the Sanitary Board. So far, he added, "common sense poison" had proved the best in Hongkong. The Indian Government might be asked what poison they had found most efficacious. Ratin was evidently of little use, and, so far, plague had not reduced the rat population to any appreciable extent.

The PRINCIPAL CIVIL MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH forwarded the results of an examination carried out by the Government Bacteriologist on Ratin No. 2, a rat exterminator. He suggested that the results warranted an extensive trial and he recommended that the Crown Agents be asked to quote the price per 100 large tins (15 shilling size) as the Medical Officer of Health desired to try this exterminator on a large scale next winter.

DR. HEANLEY, in his report, stated that Ratin No 2 was eaten greedily by house rats and it caused death in more than 90 per cent within a few days.

MR. HO PER MINUTED—This is very interesting and should be discussed. I fail to see any reason for asking the Colonial Secretary's permission to circulate these papers to the members of the Board, considering the Government sent them to the Board.

MR. LAU CHU P K—I suppose this poison will also kill cats which people are now advised to keep. In Chinese houses it is not safe to leave poison all over the place.

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL—Will it kill children?

THE PRESIDENT—The communication was addressed to the Head of the Sanitary Board and not to the Secretary, who was the official to whom those papers should be addressed.

MR. HOOPER—On that point I may say it is advisable that we should know exactly our position. I am under the impression that the Governor's idea was that papers sent down to be laid on the table, whether addressed to the Head of the Sanitary Department or the Secretary of the Board, are for discussion.

A whispered consultation between the President and Mr. Hooper followed.

MR. HOOPER—If you make that communication officially I would ask that the matter stand over until the next meeting. I would like to know if Sir Frederick Lugard confirmed that arrangement. I am not alluding to C. S. O. minutes sent down for your information, but I am speaking of communications directly addressed by His Excellency or the Colonial Secretary to the Head of the Department to be laid on the table, or are pertinent to any question we are discussing. We should have access to such papers. I think it had better stand over.

THE PRESIDENT—Will you move a resolution?

MR. HOOPER—I would rather you accepted it without resolution.

THE PRESIDENT—Will you give notice?

MR. HOOPER—It isn't necessary.

MR. HOOPER—After referring to a document handed him by the President said he did not mean C.S.O.'s but matters which had been considered by the Board.

THE PRESIDENT—It is better to make a resolution than make a speech.

MR. HOOPER—I have discussed the question with the Governor. I think it had better stand over until next time.

THE PRESIDENT—Will you bring up a resolution?

MR. HOOPER—Yes.

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL made a reference to the poison.

THE PRESIDENT—The general points will come up for discussion later.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The death rate in the Colony was:—

	Corresponding week last year.
Week ended 8th August:	
British and foreign community 31.6	24.6
Whole Colony 36.4	20.5

Week ended 15th August:

British and foreign community 39.0 12.3

Whole Colony 30.9 22.2

Week ended 22nd August:

British and foreign community 23.7 28.7

Whole Colony 29.5 28.0

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, August 28th.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE), WITH COMMANDER R. M. PENFOLD, R.N., AND CAPTAIN ROBINSON (NAUTICAL ASSESSORS).

INTERESTING SALVAGE CLAIM.

The hearing was concluded, of the case in which Chun Tak Loong and Co. sued Messrs. Butterfield and Swire and the China Navigation Co. Ltd., their claim being for \$10,833 held by defendants as payment for services rendered in connection with the stranding of the s.s. "Akashi Maru."

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. J. Scott Harston (of Messrs. Ewens and Harston) appeared for the plaintiffs, the defendants being represented by Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C. instructed by Mr. H. J. Gedge (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master).

Sir Henry Berkeley, for the defence, referred to an entry in the engineers' log book of fine weather. He asked the Court to accept the engineer's explanation of the words, which meant that it was fine weather for the engine room. Any weather that helped the engines was fine weather for the engineers, and, as one of the deck officers said, the engineer would probably have made a very different entry if he had been going head to the wind. Apart from that there were facts before the Court which showed that the engineer could not have meant "fine weather" in the sense that there was no risk in a boat going between the "Yochow" and the "Akashi Maru." There was the evidence of the officers of the boats as to the weather, especially when they were alongside the "Akashi Maru." The entry was a piece of evidence that could not be used in any way to minimise the evidence placed before the Court which entitled them to say that the services rendered were courageous, being carried out under circumstances of great peril.

His Lordship referred to part of the evidence which mentioned blue sky.

Sir Henry Berkeley—As to the blueness of the sky, that is a matter which has nothing whatever to do with the case. What your Lordship will probably desire to consider with the aid of the assessors is not the colour of the sky or the amount of cloud thereon, but what was the state of the sea existing between the two vessels, and especially alongside the "Akashi." It was there, of course, Counsel continued, that the living peril to life existed. What the crews of the boats did was to risk their own lives for the sake of saving life, and their efforts were successful. If the Court came to the conclusion that in fact life was saved owing to the efforts of those of the "Yochow," then he would submit on the authority of the "Pacific" that, notwithstanding the fact that the vessel from which the life was saved was a foreigner—a Japanese vessel, but inasmuch as part of the saving and life saving was effected in British waters, that the saving of life could be and must be taken into account in augmenting the amount to be allowed. At the moment of the peril the probabilities were that they would be ready to give the whole treasure to be saved, but the Court never allowed agreements to be imposed on people in stress. The amount of one half could not be in any sense said to be unreasonable to ask in the circumstances. They were entirely on the knees of the gods in this matter and asked for a general exercise of discretion. Something ought to be added to the salvage award from the fact that they saved 136 lives. The value of the "Yochow" and the lighters she was towing was \$350,000, and to be told, after diverging from his course and placing his ship and the lives of the crew in danger, that he was a robber and a pirate, was unfair to the captain.

Mr. Slade—To ask half is absolutely piratical.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I am instructed to say this: that shipowners intend that no judge of an admiralty court and nautical assessors should say that any shipowner is asking too much after risking what the "Yochow" did. She risked \$350,000, and I contend that \$14,000 is not too much. Proceeding, Sir Henry said they were claiming an award which should be given to courageous men for what he would describe as bravery in rescuing life. He had before him a letter from Messrs. Butterfield and Swire addressed to Mr. Arima of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha in which they spoke of the courageous conduct of their crew, and which, in reply, the Osaka Shosen Kaisha designated as gallant.

His Lordship referred to the case of the "Aragonia" in the Hongkong Law Reports, where two men went out in boats with hawsers.

Sir Henry Berkeley—There is no particular danger in that, and taking the case as reported, there is no parallel between that case and the case of the "Yochow."

His Lordship—There must have been some danger, because the officers got special award.

Sir Henry Berkeley—In any case of towage the officers and crew always get a portion whether they risk their lives or not. The "Aragonia" is a valuable case when it comes to be applied to cases that are similar, but here the two cases are quite apart. Continuing, Counsel said he could do no more than put before the Court the facts which he considered entitled them to more than an ordinary award. But shipowners would like to know where they were. If the Court gave such an amount as to make it not worth their while, they would probably not assist ships in distress.

His Lordship said the circumstances in the "Aragonia" case were somewhat akin to the present, and the judgment given in that case proved thoroughly satisfactory. The assessor then was the agent of one of the large shipping companies here, so that shippers knew where they were.

Sir Henry Berkeley said he could not see any parallel after reading it, and he thought there was no guiding light in it for Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. The "Aragonia's" case was one of ordinary towage, but this was a heroic rescue of people and treasure. The "Aragonia" only had her propeller broken, and could rig up jury masts, but one of the signals put up by the "Akashi" was, "I am sinking." And so she was; and it was as much as her crew could do to get off with their lives. The amount they asked was for owners, master and crew. A sum of \$4,000 had been paid into a trust account at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and they were awaiting the decision of this case to know how it should be disposed of.

Mr. Slade thought that even the enthusiasm of his learned friend could hardly rouse him into saying that this rescue, the heroism of which would compare with many in stormy places round the British coast—rescues in really high seas, not in rosy seas; and in really serious and bad weather, not in a fresh monsoon and on a fine day. There were times when the conditions tended to render the risk to lives of salvors really serious. He did not deny that there was risk in this case. Of course, there was risk, and if the boat had sunk alongside the "Akashi Maru" there undoubtedly would have been serious danger to the lives of the crew, and want of skill might have easily caused loss of life. He did not think this feat could be magnified into the heights of heroism displayed on many, many occasions under circumstances to which these were absolutely child's play. According to the attitude of the Court of Admiralty with regard to salvage awards, the half was given as a maximum only in most extraordinary circumstances, and Counsel thought his Lordship would be clearly of opinion that the half ought not to be awarded in this case.

The Court adjourned sine die.

One curious effect of the lawless state of the neighbourhood of Kongmoon last year, remarks Mr. G. Moule, the Acting Commissioner of Customs, was a large increase in the import of iron, owing, it is said, to the unusual demand for "window bars."

Monday, August 31st.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

THE ALLEGED TRESPASS ACTION.

Their Lordships the Chief Justice (Sir F. Pigott) and the acting Puisne Judge (Mr. H. J. Gompertz) sat to hear two motions, one on behalf of the plaintiffs and the other on behalf of the defendants in the recent jury action in which Reuter Brockelmann and Company were sued by a Chinese firm for alleged wrongful seizure of property belonging to them. Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. Dixon, of Messrs. Hastings, and Hastings, appeared for the plaintiffs and Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., and Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Lang, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Slade, on behalf of the plaintiffs, moved the first motion which asked the Court for an order that the verdict of the jury on the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth questions submitted to them be set aside on the grounds that the said verdict was contrary to the evidence, against the weight of evidence, and perverse in that the majority of the jury were influenced by a desire not to allow the plaintiffs to have the benefit of a judgment of this honourable Court because in the accounts of the Kwong Hing Cheung firm the identity of the partners was concealed by the use of "tong" names.

Mr. Pollock raised several objections. He contended that a motion pure and simple to set aside the verdict of a jury on questions submitted to them was not known in law in Hongkong. The motion was irregular inasmuch as it claimed substantive relief in one direction, namely in asking that the verdict be set aside upon those five points.

The Chief Justice asked if it were a motion for a new trial would it be in time.

Mr. Pollock gave two grounds on which it would be out of time.

Sir Henry Berkeley supplemented Mr. Pollock's argument.

Mr. Slade argued that motions to be set aside without application for a new trial were allowed at Home.

The hearing was adjourned.

Mr. Pollock, for the defendants, was to have moved the Court to set aside the judgment entered for the plaintiffs with costs and to enter judgment with costs for the defendants on the following grounds among others:

(1) That the judge should have non-suited the plaintiffs at the trial: (a) because the alleged wrongs were committed beyond the territorial jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Hongkong, and the plaintiffs failed to prove that such alleged wrongs were actionable by the law of the country within whose jurisdiction the acts, constituting the alleged wrongs were committed (b) because the alleged trespass to immovables is stated in the pleadings of the plaintiffs to have been committed to immovable property situated within China beyond the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Hongkong: (c) because the act constituting the alleged trespass to immovables was the seizure of moveable property by the Chinese authorities under a warrant issued by the said Chinese authorities at the request of the German Consul General at Canton, acting under the Treaty of Tientsin 1861 between Germany and China, for and on behalf of the defendants for the purpose of exacting payment by the plaintiffs to the defendants of moneys claimed by the defendants to be due to them by the plaintiffs, and it was not competent for the judge to assume that the issuing of the said warrant by the Chinese authorities was not a judicial act: (d) because it was not competent for the judge to assume that such warrant, whether issued judicially or otherwise, was either irregular or invalid by the law of China: (e) because the alleged libel was not set out in the statement of claim: (f) because the occasion on which the communication constituting the alleged libel and the alleged false representations was made, was an absolutely privileged occasion; (g) because the plaintiffs gave no evidence of express malice on the part of the defendants and in the absence of such evidence no action would lie in the Supreme Court of Hongkong against the defendants for

setting the Chinese authorities in motion under the aforesaid Treaty of Tientsin.

(2) That the judge was wrong in directing the jury that in consequence of the defendants not having produced the warrant of the Chinese authorities under which the seizure of the property of the plaintiffs had been made, they must find a verdict for the plaintiffs with damages for trespass to the goods of the plaintiffs:—(a) because it was not necessary for the defendants to produce such warrant at the trial inasmuch as (1) the fact that the seizure had been made under the warrant of the Chinese authorities was admitted on the pleadings and the statement of claim contained no allegation impeaching the validity or regularity of such warrant; and (2) it was not competent for the judge to inquire into the validity of the warrant of the said Chinese authorities inasmuch as it was issued and enforced beyond the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Hongkong: (b) because the plaintiffs produced no evidence to show that the said warrant was either invalid or irregular by the law of Hongkong: (c) because the plaintiffs produced no evidence to show that the said warrant was invalid or irregular by the law of China.

(3) That inasmuch as the jury found a verdict for the defendants on all the issues of facts left to them and only found for the plaintiffs on the one issue of trespass to goods because they were directed to do so, the judge was wrong in refusing the application of the defendants for the costs of those issues which the jury had found in their favour.

(4) That the grounds upon which such refusal was based, namely, that the direction to find for the plaintiffs on the trespass issue terminated the case, and that the issues submitted thereafter were irrelevant, and therefore unnecessary, did not constitute "good cause" for depriving defendants of the costs of such issues.

Tuesday, September 1st.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

THE ALLEGED TRESPASS ACTION.

Their Lordships the Chief Justice (Sir F. Pigott) and the acting Puisne Judge (Mr. H. J. Gompertz) sat to hear two motions, one on behalf of the plaintiffs and the other on behalf of the defendants in the recent jury action in which Reuter Brockelmann and Company were sued by a Chinese firm for alleged wrongful seizure of property belonging to them. Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. Dixon, of Messrs. Hastings, and Hastings, appeared for the plaintiffs and Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., and Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Lang, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Slade said he thought it would be better before going into the detailed facts of the case, to refer to the rider, or addition (or whatever the correct phraseology was) by the jury to their verdict, and to show their Lordships how the jury had obviously disregarded the evidence so as to give effect to their desire to inflict a penalty on Chinese who acted in the perfectly lawful manner of carrying on their business under "tong" names.

The Chief Justice—My attention has been drawn to notes taken by the shorthand writer, which do not exactly correspond with what actually happened. I shall alter that word "rider" into "remarks," and put it at the end.

Mr. Slade—Perhaps I'd better narrate what occurred. Your Lordship finished your summing up about one o'clock. The Court then adjourned for tiffin, and the jury returned to Court to consider their verdict after the tiffin adjournment. They gave the answers as recorded in the shorthand writer's notes. Then a discussion arose as to costs and various matters. When that had ended, the foreman of the jury handed in a document already typewritten.

Mr. Pollock—I cannot assent to all you are saying.

Mr. Slade—Then will you correct me? I will be only too glad.

Mr. Pollock—What then happened was that your Lordship stated you reserved the question of costs. After that your Lordship informed the

jury that they were discharged and would be exempted from attending for a period of two years. Then, after your Lordship had formally discharged the jury, the foreman read from a typewritten paper.

The Chief Justice—And then Mr. Slade moved that the reading should be entered on the record.

Mr. Pollock—Your Lordship will see by looking at the original that what the jury had in their mind was that the law ought to be altered.

The Chief Justice—That, of course, is the argument.

Mr. Pollock—On behalf of the defendants I think I should formally take the point that this paper, to use a neutral term, does not in the circumstances really form part of the record at all. It is obviously not part of the verdict, and my friend is obviously going to found some argument upon it.

Mr. Slade—I am going to show that the jury carried out their own recommendations.

Mr. Pollock—This paper, read by the jury after they were discharged by the Court, did not form part of the verdict of the jury, and should not form part of the record.

The Puisne Judge—You don't mean, Mr. Pollock, that we are not entitled to look at this?

Mr. Pollock—Not as forming part of the record. It has no more effect than if the jurors had afterwards written a letter to the Registrar or the newspapers to a similar effect.

The Chief Justice—That, of course, we must consider. But so far as the formal point is concerned, we must look at it now as it is on the record.

Mr. Pollock—Your Lordships can consider whether it ought to be on the record. It seems to me a point that will have to be decided now.

The Chief Justice—We must be quite regular. Unless it is in your notice of motion that this is an irregularity it must form part of the appeal.

Mr. Pollock—We cannot appeal from something we contend ought not to be on the record at all. If we included it in our notice of motion we would practically admit that it is on the record.

The Chief Justice—It is on the record as a fact, and there should be a motion to remove it. Mr. Slade—I formally moved that it should be put on the record.

Mr. Pollock—It was not a regular motion.

The Chief Justice—It was a motion in the course of the trial.

The Puisne Judge—Supposing the jury handed in a paper next day, wouldn't the Court be entitled to consider it?

Mr. Pollock—My point is that the jury were discharged before they made it. We contend that it is neither a rider nor an addition to the verdict.

The Chief Justice—We don't say it is part of the verdict. We say it is technically on the record, and your only point now is that it should not be on the record. There should be a formal motion to remove it.

Mr. Pollock—Do your Lordships hold that we should formally move? It means filing a notice of motion.

The Puisne Judge—Supposing Mr. Slade had not moved that motion, and the paper had never been on the record, couldn't it be referred to in argument?

Mr. Pollock—No.

The Puisne Judge—Supposing they had written to the papers next day and signed it?

Mr. Pollock—It could not be referred to because it was not part of the verdict; no more than if the jurors held a public meeting at the Hongkong Club or the City Hall, and said it was high time this business should be stopped.

The Chief Justice—I cannot assent to that! The Puisne Judge—Supposing the jury had done that, couldn't it be referred to as a question of showing animus?

Mr. Pollock—I have no authority on that point. There may be a broad distinction between physical acts and what the jury said. For instance, an affidavit cannot be filed by a juror with regard to his verdict. The matter really resolves itself into this: Can this be considered as part of the verdict? Whether it must be considered as being technically on the record or file, or not, it cannot be considered by the Court as material for their consideration.

The Chief Justice—We think it is regularly on the record, not merely technically on the record of the case. It is also clear that it could be referred to, and brought before the Court by way of affidavit, but this is unnecessary now because it is on the record of the trial.

Mr. Pollock—Mr. Lang has filed an affidavit for the purpose of showing that it was not considered by this Court.

The Chief Justice—Supposing it had been written three or four days afterwards to a paper; that could be put before the Court?

Mr. Pollock—As part of the verdict?

The Chief Justice—No, simply as a fact which occurred.

Mr. Slade said his Lordship, in dealing with the question of "tong" names, laid before the jury their duty. The summing up was delivered before the tiffin adjournment. This typed recommendation or paper was prepared by the jury during the adjournment, and therein the jurors said "they felt it their duty to draw the attention of his Lordship to the very objectionable system pursued by Chinese firms of concealing the identity of their partners in their accounts by the use of fictitious designations or "tong" names, and are of opinion that firms that keep their books in this manner should not be allowed the benefit of the Courts of this Colony." Your Lordship had told them in the plainest possible language that the duty of the Court was to recommend "tong" names, and that people carrying on business under "tong" names in the Colony were entitled to the benefit of the Courts of this Colony. The jury say they are not. And I shall show your Lordships in this particular that the majority of the jury—to their honour be it said two of the number stood out as a minority—must have deliberately given effect to this desire of theirs to prevent Chinese trading under "tong" names having the benefit of the Courts of this Colony.

The Puisne Judge—Was the summing-up of the Court concluded before the adjournment?

Mr. Slade—Yes. Then the jury returned, one can only presume, with this typewritten document, because there is no opportunity for typewriting in the library of the Supreme Court.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
(SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT).

ALLEGED FRAUDULENT PREFERENCE.

His Lordship delivered judgment on the motion in the bankruptcy of Li King Shek that the transfer by him of 14,000 bags of flour, the property of the Kwong Yik Wo firm, in favour of Chai Wai Chi was a fraudulent preference as against the other creditors of the debtor, and further that Chai Kee was not a bona fide purchaser of the flour from Chai Wai Chi. The motion was made by Hon. Mr. Pollock, K.C., on behalf of the Official Receiver. His Lordship said he could not see the slightest use of the motion against Chai Wei Kee which he dismissed with costs, and so far as he could see the motion against Chai Kee was one of suspicion only. He understood that the trustee was desirous of arguing the question and this might therefore be done.

THE CHOLERA ON THE "ARRATOON APCAR."

From Yokohama papers to hand by Tuesday's mail we are glad to gather that Dr. Heanley was not seriously ill of cholera when the quarantine authorities at Yokohama subjected the *Arratoon Apar* to a further five days' detention after having just completed one period of five days. According to the newspaper reports, the quarantine doctor examined Dr. Heanley's blood and discovered cholera bacilli. Dr. Heanley himself is stated to have confirmed the finding of the quarantine doctor. The ship was, therefore, subjected to renewed detention. Captain Stewart and an engineer were unwell at the time, but, up to the time the *Mail* left, their complaint had not been diagnosed as cholera. The whole of the cabin passengers and crew were ordered to be again disinfected.

THE COLLAPSE OF BUILDINGS IN THE TYPHOON.

OFFICIAL INQUIRY.

Before Mr. J. H. Kemp, sitting as coroner, and Messrs. A. Raymond, J. R. Boyes and R. T. Rowan, jurors, an inquiry was held at the Magistracy yesterday morning into the circumstances attending the deaths of 17 persons who were killed in a collapse at 25, 26 and 27, Shaukiwan West, in the typhoon of July 27th.

Mr. Kemp informed the jurors that the chief reason for delay in holding an enquiry was that there had been a number of collapses, which occasioned in all 64 deaths. Inquiries had been made as to the contractors of collapsed buildings, but the houses being old in most instances, the contractors were unable to be found. In the present instance the house where the deaths occurred was an old one, and the theory was that a collapse was caused by a wall at the rear. What the jurors had to consider was the question of liability of the owner and contractor.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, who appeared on behalf of the Government stated that this collapse, which occurred during the typhoon, resulted in the deaths of no less than 17 persons. The scene of the collapse was at Shaukiwan West where five new houses, a boatbuilder's shed and three old houses were on the one lot of Crown land and facing the sea. They were the ordinary type of Chinese houses with a yard and kitchen at the rear, and at the back was a wall which extended the whole length of the five houses. A blacksmith would state in evidence that while the typhoon was nearly at its height one of these houses collapsed without any warning, and all within were more or less buried in the ruins. The police were informed of the occurrence, and Inspector Cameron and his force set to work to extricate the injured people. They succeeded in rescuing a number, but, as stated, 17 bodies were taken out and removed to the Mortuary. An inspection of the scene of the accident might reveal the fact that there were perhaps other reasons than the typhoon which brought about this catastrophe. Mr. Harker was the architect of these houses, but after a time the owner undertook to supervise the work himself, and engaged a Chinese contractor to complete the work according to Mr. Harker's plans. The houses were apparently run up very quickly, and then the owner sent in an application that the houses might be inspected. They were inspected by an officer of the Building Authority and certified to as being built in accordance with the requirements of the Ordinance. A man who built a wall to a height approaching forty feet was required to do so according to the Ordinance, and to exercise proper care that the wall would not be a danger to life. The Building Ordinance stipulated that a wall must be solidly built, with good lime mortar or cement, and properly bonded together. The wall in question was very badly built; there was no regularity about it; the material used was very inferior; while there was very little bonding indeed as to the corner walls and cross walls.

After Chinese witnesses had told the story of the collapse, and Inspector Cameron had given evidence as to the rescue work,

Building Inspector Edwards was called, and testified to inspecting the houses in question. He found that the three old houses had totally collapsed, while the two upper storeys of the wall in the rear, right along the whole length, had fallen. Witness thought this wall fell on to the houses. There were five openings in the wall which had been filled up with stone work, four of them being filled up fairly well. The stone portion of the wall was badly bonded, and the corner near house No. 27 appeared to have been built dry. The stone-work was built in very irregular courses, and the corners of the party walls and the main wall were not properly bonded. There were a number of straight joints showing at the end of the party wall, sometimes extending for several feet. Had the bonding been properly done, it would have strengthened the rear wall.

The hearing was adjourned.

ALLEGED ARMED ROBBERY NEAR SAIKUNG.

Cheng Kam and eleven other seamen were charged before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy with committing armed robbery near Saikung, on the 6th August. Inspector Langley prosecuted.

Un Leung, master of the junk which was held up, said he was a trader and the owner of a licensed junk. At 1.30 p.m. on the 6th ult, his craft weighed anchor. The cargo consisted of 62 tins of kerosene and 75 bags of flour, half of which was his property. There were six persons in all on the junk, and the only arm they carried was a chopper, used for cooking purposes. He was bound for Ping Hoi, and had arrived at Tai Fong when the robbery took place. It was a "thundering" dark night, and witness was steering the ship when the robbers appeared; all hands were rowing, there being no wind. Five men in a boat ran close to the junk and ordered the rowers to stop pulling. They did not stop until they heard the report of a firearm; then they all rushed down into the hold. The robbers boarded the junk and asked witness for his money. He had only two dollars, which he handed over. Another five dollars odd was obtained from the remaining folks. The robbers did not go down the hold, but the cargo was there. The crew were imprisoned, searched, and relieved of valuables and clothing. Then two of the robbers returned to their own boat, three remaining on the junk. Sails were hoisted on both boats and they arrived at Tai Long the next night about 11 p.m. During that night the junk's cargo was removed to the shore, and the sail ropes were cut by the robbers before they left to prevent the crew getting the junk under weigh again. While imprisoned below the twelfth defendant supplied the crew with "chows" twice.

His Worship—And when did you get your next meal?

Witness—I never got anything else; my stomach was as flat as flat could be through hunger.

On the question being repeated witness said he next dined at one o'clock on the afternoon of the 8th August. When the robbers left the ship the crew got out of the hold, repaired the sail ropes and steered for Lin Chung Bay where, as he stated, they procured "chow." On the same afternoon he reported the matter to the police at Saikung. Witness could identify the twelfth defendant, because he saw him through a hole in the hatch.

Corroborative evidence was called, and the hearing adjourned.

THE SEIZURE OF "ARMS" AT AMOY.

The "Amoy Gazette" states on the authority of Mr. Mancini, the Acting Deputy Commissioner of Customs, that the reports as to the seizure of arms at Amoy have been greatly exaggerated. The seized goods were nothing more nor less than 9,000 old rusty rifle barrels imported in a junk from Formosa as "old iron."

CHINA'S IMPORT TRADE.

We have received from the Statistical Department of the I. M. Customs Vol. I—Imports, being Part III of the Analysis of Foreign Trade—a volume which every foreign business man interested in China's trade will find of the utmost value and interest. Every article of trade is dealt with in separate analytical tables. The following table shows the value of the Foreign Import Trade of China 1848 to 1907:—

Year.	Import. Hk. Tls.	Re-Export. Hk. Tls.	Net-Import. Hk. Tls.
1898	218,745,347	9,136,013	209,579,334
1899	273,756,065	9,007,609	264,748,456
1900	222,129,473	11,059,051	211,070,422
1901	277,139,735	8,836,817	268,302,918
1902	325,549,911	10,132,406	315,387,505
1903	336,853,134	10,114,001	326,739,133
1904	357,444,603	13,384,055	344,060,548
1905	461,194,532	14,093,741	447,100,791
1906	428,290,287	18,020,205	410,270,082
1907	429,071,682	12,670,893	416,400,789

PROPOSED EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER CORPS.

TO SAVE LIFE DURING TYPHOONS.

It is announced in the *Government Gazette* that it is proposed to raise a Volunteer Emergency Corps for the purpose of saving life on the harbour front during typhoons. Life buoys, ropes, &c., will be provided at convenient intervals along the Prays, and the sea front at Kowloon.

As a certain amount of organisation is required to ensure co-operation and secure the best results, it is necessary that intending volunteers shall pledge themselves to obey the orders of the officer in charge of the party, who will be the Assistant Harbour Master, or one of the Harbour Department Boarding Officers, or some other Government Officer deputed by the Harbour Master or by the Captain Superintendent of Police.

Any person who is willing to volunteer for the Victoria Corps is requested to communicate his name, private address, and place of business to the Harbour Master in order that he may be allotted a station as near as possible to the place in which he may be expected to be found.

Volunteers for the Kowloon Corps are similarly requested to send in their names to the Captain Superintendent of Police.

On the 2nd inst. the following paragraph appeared in the *Daily Press*—

We are informed by the Harbour Master (Hon. Commander Basil Taylor) that thirty-one young men have declared their willingness to join the Volunteer Emergency Corps for life saving during typhoons. These are all from the Central District, and, not unnaturally, the Harbour Master looks to the East and the West to furnish their quotas. The Eastern District has many men who have distinguished themselves in rescue work on former occasions, and it is to be hoped they will come forward to identify themselves with the new organisation.

It is proposed to have three stations on the Hongkong side, and each man will be allotted a day post and a night post according to his place of business and residence. For instance, if his place of business is in the Central and he resides in the Western district he would be given a day post at the Central and a night post at the Western.

IMPROVED TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION.

The temporary inconvenience to pedestrians caused by the footpaths being "up" in various streets in the city, will have its compensations in benefit to the public at large by the improvement and extension of the telephone service. The manager of the China and Japan Telephone and Electric Co., Ltd., Mr. W. L. Carter, is endeavouring to keep abreast of the times by introducing the latest improvements in the service, and a considerable increase in the demand for telephonic communication has necessitated the laying of new cables in various parts of the city. The work is being done under the supervision of a qualified man, who is losing no time in completing the work. From the Exchange in Duddell Street to Peddar Street an 800-pair cable has been laid, and from the latter street on to the Fire Station the Company's employees are engaged in laying a 600-pair cable. In addition to this the cables as far as Eastern Street are being enlarged to enable the Company to accommodate the various prospective subscribers whose wants they were previously unable to meet. Again, the cables are being extended half a mile beyond the present limit in Des Voeux Road West, and to the same distance from the eastern limit towards Causeway Bay, larger cables being laid in both instances.

The "digging soil ceremony" of the Wuohang-Yeechow section of the Canton-Hankow Railway will be held at 10 a.m. on the 8th day of the 8th moon. The ceremony will be conducted by the Director of the Railway Bureau. It is said that the ground required for the line has already been bought and paid for.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

September 1st.

AN EXTRAVAGANT SON PUNISHED.

It is reported that the wealthy deaf and dumb young Chinaman named Chu Pak Lok, who is a well-known figure in Hongkong on account of his motoring craze, has recently returned to Canton and is now confined in his house under chain and fetters by order of his mother.

Young Chu is the son of a late tobacco merchant here who died some years ago leaving a prosperous business and a considerable fortune behind.

Mr. Chu's mother has control of all the business and money of the estate left by the deceased. During the last few years Chu has been drawing something like \$60,000 to \$70,000 annually from his own firms and spending it foolishly. His mother, knowing the extravagance of the young man, has been doing her best to stop him from drawing money from the firms, but it is said that Chu is a pugilist and by frequently threatening the managers invariably succeeded in getting what he wanted.

The mother determined to stop this extravagance and ordered chains and fetters to be made so as to keep him a prisoner should he return. Chu returned a few days ago and was seized by a number of men hired by the mother and is now locked up in his house. The other night he managed to get loose, and having armed himself with kitchen knives and choppers, looked for the steward of the family and threatened to kill him if he failed to give him money at once. The Police were sent for and the unfortunate steward was released. The mother, it is said, intends to assert her rights and have her son crippled by cutting the tendons of his ankles. This barbarous treatment is often resorted to by angry parents having to deal with prodigal sons.

September 1st.

HOW THE OPIUM LAWS ARE EVADED.

There is a clause in the new opium laws now enforced which states that no opium-smoking implements of any description shall be kept in public houses or places such as hotels, restaurants, flower boats, theatres, brothels &c. for the use or convenience of customers.

The Police were very energetic when the law was promulgated and searches were frequently made in these public places. All the implements were either removed or destroyed, and opium smokers who patronize these places had to carry their license and paraphernalia with them.

The public houses and flower boats in Fatsan, in order to evade the law to suit the convenience of customers, have each taken out several licences in the names of their servants and now these places have been practically converted into public opium dens where people can go and smoke opium with impunity. This sort of thing has been going on in Fatsan since the beginning of the year. It is alleged that the police in Fatsan have been bribed and are ignoring what is going on, thus making the new opium law a dead letter.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

The first section of the main line (from Wong Sha to Kong Cheun, about 12 miles) was completed and opened for traffic about the 15th July last year. It is now reported that the Railway Company has completed another 30 (10 miles), from Kong Cheun to a town called Ngan Tsan Au, and trains will commence to run to the latter place on the 7th instant.

OFFICIAL MATTERS.

Viceroy Chang has sent a despatch to the Grand Council at Peking recommending honours that be conferred on the Commissioner of Customs at Kung Pak (Macao) for the good services done by that Customs House in the seizure of fire arms. His Excellency has also recommended the conferment of honours on the Foreign Consuls here for their kind assistance in the recent Flood disaster.

The Local Authorities received cable news from Peking stating that on the 31st ultimo the Emperor went personally to the Ancestral Temple and declared before the altar that he will establish a parliament in China in 1907.

(This is intended to pacify those who are clamouring for Constitutional Government.) The Board of Education has called for the Provincial Literary Chancellor to supervise the immediate establishment of a College for the training of lady teachers.

The Board of Labour, Agriculture and Commerce at Peking has telegraphically requested the Local Authorities to recommend them persons who are versed in botany, agriculture and veterinary surgery. High official rank will be given to those who prove to be qualified.

It is reported that H. E. Yuan, nephew of Prime Minister Yuan Shi Kai, is certain to succeed Viceroy Chang at Canton. He was strongly recommended by H. E. Chang Chi Tung, who is now at the head of the Canton-Hankow Railway affairs. Chang Chi Tung has already requested the Viceroy to abolish the Three Province Railway office here, and with Yuan's appointment no special Commission will be nominated for the supervision of the Canton-Hankow Railway. The special delegates who were on their way to Canton to investigate the complicated affairs of the Railway have been ordered to return to Peking.

September 2nd.

AN ANTI-FOREIGN OFFICIAL.

Taotai Wen Tsung Yao is becoming prominent as one of the most anti-foreign officials here. It is reported that recently he advised Viceroy Chang to give instructions to all the Military and Naval authorities and the Literary Chancellor of the Kwangtung Province to use only native cloth for the uniforms of soldiers and scholars and to strictly prohibit the use of foreign cloth. Instructions to the above effect have been already issued by the Viceroy.

If he adopts similar measures in Tibet there will, no doubt, be trouble in regard to British trade.

INCREASING THE RAILWAY FARES.

The railway fares on the Fatsan line will be increased from the 1st day of the 9th moon the increase being 10 cents for every station in the first and second class and 5 cents for the third class. It is expected that the third class passengers will protest as the increase is out of proportion altogether to their means.

DENGUE FEVER.

Dengue Fever is visiting us again. Several Shameen residents are laid up with it and it is feared that the epidemic will spread as it did in 1904.

It is said that the disease is spreading fast in the City. The cases, however, are mild, and no deaths are reported.

HONGKONG MERCHANT ROBBED.

Mr. Ng Sau Sang, manager of the Fook On Company of Hongkong, was robbed of his gold watch and chain and certain other articles valued about \$300 on the 31st ultimo, while staying at the Yeut Wah Hotel. The matter has been reported to the police who are now on the track of the criminal.

MANY GUNBOATS ON THE WEST RIVER.

It is reported that there are now 80 gunboats stationed on the West River. Each has to patrol a certain section of the river and must not go beyond the limit assigned to it, unless for coaling purposes. The Bureau of Local Affairs has established six coaling stations on the West River viz:—Shek Kee, Chu Tan Shan, Yung Kee, Tan Yeu Ho, Wong Hong and To Shing. The officials in charge of these stations have been instructed not to purchase any foreign coal, but to use native coal, and to render a monthly statement of the amount of coal consumed and to name the places and districts where the coal comes from. This looks like official recognition and support of the boycott on Japanese goods.

RECRUITS AND FIRE ARMS.

The Provincial Government is recruiting a large number of men for the Reformed Army. Viceroy Chang has ordered the Government Arms Factory to manufacture several thousands of repeating rifles and several millions of smokeless powder cartridges as soon as possible.

It is said that the Arms Factory has informed the Viceroy that 300 rifles and about 30,000 cartridges can be supplied each month.

SENSATIONAL PIRACY.

The "Fook Chow" and "On Kee" launches trading between Canton and Waichow were both pirated on the night of the 29th ult. The pirates, about 50 in number, first boarded the "Fook Chow" and made use of her to pirate the "On Kee." About \$10,000 in money and valuable merchandise were carried away by the pirates. Many passengers, including several military officials and members of the crews of the vessels, were brutally murdered by the pirates who afterwards threw the bodies into the river.

The recent recrudescence of piracy in the Canton Delta and robberies and plundering on land has been something abnormal. It would fill a couple of columns every day if all the cases were reported.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

It is feared that great difficulty will be experienced in collecting the second instalment on the shares of the Railway Company, payment of which is now due.

It is reported that the Charitable Institutions in Fatshan have announced their inability to collect the second instalment on the shares for which they are responsible.

The Cloth Guild at Fatshan who are responsible for the subscription of over 1,000 shares have taken down their agency sign board of the Railway Company and have refused to issue notices of call.

VICEEROY CHANG.

His Excellency Viceroy Chang has again cabled to the Grand Council at Peking praying that his resignation may be accepted. Ill-health and old age are pleaded.

HONGKONG.

Dr. Oswald Marriott, of Hongkong, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Colonial Institute.

The final contest for the Water Polo Shield took place on Wednesday, and was won by the Corinthian Yacht Club team. Their opponents were a V.R.C. team. Only one goal was scored.

Mr. Worthspoon, a clerk at Quarry Bay, has reported to the police that on August 31st he lost \$320 in five and ten dollar notes between the shipyard and his house.

The King's Exequatur empowering Mr. Tatanichire Funatsu to act as Vice-Consul for Japan at Hongkong has received His Majesty's signature.

The burglars who entered the "Lucios Scientific Diamond Palace" on August 27th got away with about 2,000 pieces of jewellery. The value is estimated at \$2,300. No trace of the thieves has yet been discovered.

The Hongkong Hotel Company's report for the half year ended 30th June last was received as we were about to go to press and will be given in full in our next issue. The profit on working account amounts to \$80,822.30, which show an increase of \$7,754.07 on the earnings for the corresponding period of 1907. The Directors recommend payment of a dividend of 6 per cent for the half year, which will absorb \$36,000.

Admiral Li Chun, Commander-in-chief of the Kwangtung Navy, arrived in the Colony on Saturday, and during the morning paid a visit to the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's works to inspect the two patrol cruisers being constructed for the Canton Government. The Chinese Admiral was very well pleased with the progress made, thanked Mr. Wilson, the manager of the yard, for the reception accorded him, and congratulated the staff on the good work they were turning out. The two gunboats are expected to be launched towards the end of next month, and then the Dock Company will start on two more for the Chinese Government.

The Shanghai cricketers have invited the Hongkong Cricket Club to send a cricket team to Shanghai, and the invitation has been accepted. The team should leave Hongkong about October 1st, probably by the P. and O. mail of that date. Selection of the team and all practice arrangements will be decided on by a special sub-committee composed of the Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Major E. W. K. Stephenson, 3rd Middlesex Regiment, and Mr. R. Hancock. A representative team should leave for the north on this occasion, for the selection is to be made from all cricket clubs in the Colony. Invitations have been issued to the

various cricket clubs to nominate two of their members who have a probable chance of places in the team, to practice on the Hongkong Cricket Club ground during September, and members of the Club are invited to notify the Secretary of any likely aspirants to interport honours, with a view to a trial being afforded them.

THE PROHIBITION OF TORTURE IN CHINA.

It has been reported that the Ministry of Justice has issued an injunction to the Viceroy and Governors of different provinces asking them to instruct their respective subordinates to discontinue the use of torture in Court proceedings. It is further stated that, if any official should be found disobeying the order, he is to be cashiered and punished.

It might not be out of place to mention in this connection, writes *Chinese Public Opinion*, that magistrates and gaolers frequently resort to modes of punishment and torture entirely unauthorized and unrecognized by law. Magistrates unlawfully torture the prisoner for the sake of eliciting a confession of guilt, or information concerning his accomplices; and gaolers illegally torture him for the purpose of extorting money. The kinds of torture used are often revolting beyond description.

COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 6th September:—The tone of the market is nearly the same as when last reported.

Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$4.50	to	\$4.55
" Round, Good quality ...	4.80	to	4.85
" Long	5.00	to	5.05
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	4.60	to	4.65
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	4.90	to	4.95
" White,	4.95	to	5.05
" Fine Cargo	5.00	to	5.10

SAIGON.—Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co. in their monthly circular dated Saigon 21st Aug., state:—That although the demand is poor, prices remain steady owing to arrivals of grain falling off largely and to dealers buying to cover contracts near at hand. The quotations for Sept. and October delivery are:—

No. 2 White sifted (<i>trié</i>) steam milled round	*
No. 2 White unsifted (<i>ordinaire</i>) steam milled round	\$3.86
5 % Cargo steam milled round ...	3.35
10 % Cargo steam milled round ...	3.35
20 % Cargo steam milled round ...	3.25
* Prices according to terms and conditions.	

The following is a statement of this year's Exports of White Rice, Cargo Rice and Paddy:—

Destination.	Previously	Since the 24th July.	Total pcs.
Hongkong			2,689,700
Shanghai			78,400
Ningpo			45,300
Manila			703,000
Iloilo			101,800
Cebu			381,300
Japan			1,647,300
Singapore			545,700
Batavia			109,000
Samarang			140,800
Passoeran			31,000
Sourabaya			640,100
Noumea			24,000
Reunion			135,100
Europe			2,995,500
Total			10,215,500
Same period of last year			13,422,900
Exports during the month of white rice cargo rice and paddy:—			

	piculs
Hongkong	138,100
Manila	165,300
Cebu	45,300
Japan	33,700
Singapore	143,300
Sourabaya	66,000
Europe	862,700
Total	954,400

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, Sept. 3rd.—The movements in the various Opium markets have been as follows:—

	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.
Stocks on the 20th August, 1908	1,235	2,527	945	1,147
Aug. 24th imports per Japan	—	430	421	—
" 28th " " Lightning	—	195	210	—
Sept. 2nd " " Devanka	1,193	200	—	26
	2,528	3,352	1,577	1,173
Less Exports to Shanghai	53	447	327	—
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight	173	512	443	122

Estimated Stocks this day .. 2,203 2,388 808 1,051

Bengal.—There has been a spurt in our market for which it is difficult to assign any definite reason. There is a feeling that prices are low owing to the heavy rise in Malwa and that with the approach of winter an improvement in the consumption may take place. We close at \$1.085 for Patna. \$1.010 for old Benares and \$1.010/15 for new Benares.

Malwa.—The market has not yet opened for the drug of the English Mails and we can only give the following approximate quotations:—

New	950/60
3/4 years old	1,030/40

Persian.—There has been a small enquiry from the coast ports and quotations are unchanged. Good drug we quote at \$870.

HONGKONG, September 3rd.

Quotations are:—

Malwa New	\$980/1000	per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1030/1050	do.
Malwa Older	\$1080/1090	do.
Malwa Very Old	\$1100/1102	do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$820	do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$900	do.
Patna New	\$1085	per chest.
Patna Old	—	do.
Benares New	\$1020	do.
Benares Old	\$1025	do.

YARN.

HONGKONG.—Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report dated 4th September, states:—Another dull fortnight has been experienced in this market, and the aggregate business of the interval is even smaller than during the previous two weeks, and confined chiefly to superior favourite tickets of Nos. 10s and 12s for the Northern and East Coast markets. The country is irresponsive, and a general disinclination on the part of dealers to continue operations is apparent, but with some importers anxious to close their holdings parcels, here and there, change hands whenever special inducement is offered. Prices on the whole are fairly up to previous quotations, which, however, do not allow much for the depreciation in exchange. At the close there is again nothing doing, as holders having somewhat eased their stocks are less eager to sell and buyers having picked up the most desirable threads are indifferent. Bombay is quiet, with little business doing, but prices ruling there are still above replacing cost. Sales of the fortnight aggregate 3,034 bales, arrivals amount to 3,745 bales, unsold stock estimated at 12,000 and sold but uncleared bales in second hands about 27,000 bales. Local Manufacture:—No business is reported. Japanese Yarn:—Neglected throughout. Raw Cotton:—Best Indian descriptions are steady with a good demand, and 585 bales superfine Bengals are reported to have changed hands at \$24 to 24½. Stocks are running down and only 650 bales medium and common quality are on offer for which there is no demand. The market is bare of old China Cotton; the new crop is reported to be abnormally large and first shipments are expected in about two to three weeks. Quotations are Indian \$21 to 25 and China \$22 to 26. Exchange on India after slight fluctuations closes unsteady to-day at Rs. 133 for T/T and Rs. 133½ for Post. On Shanghai 75 and on Japan 86½. The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 22nd ultimo, viz:—Indian:—Total sales about 3,600 bales at or about previous prices, market closing unsteady with an estimated stock of unsold and uncleared yarn of 42,000 bales. Japanese:—Market firm and prices maintained, total business of the fortnight about 1,200 bales on the basis of Tls. 90 to 98 for No. 16s and Tls. 101 to 103½ for No. 20s. Local:—Mills have been selling a head and about 2,500 bales are reported to have changed hands at Tls. 83 to 85 for No. 12s, Tls. 87 to 90 for No. 14s and Tls. 91½ for No. 16s.

COAL.

HONGKONG, Sept. 4th.—The arrivals since the 23rd Aug. amounted to 18,970 tons of Japanese, 5,200 Barry Dock and 5,000 Hongay. The coal expected is 21,400 tons of Japan coal. There have been no sales of any importance in the interval and the market is dull. Quotations according to Messrs. Hughes and Hough's circular are as follows:—

Cardiff.....\$— to \$— ex-ship, nominal.
 Australian\$12.00 ex-ship, nominal.
 Yubari Lump...\$12.00 ex ship, nominal.
 Miiki Lump\$10.50 to \$11.00 ex-ship, nominal.
 Moji Lump\$8.00 to \$9.50 ex-ship, steady.
 Moji Unscreened \$6.00 to \$8.00 ex-ship, steady.
 Akaike Lump ...\$8.75 to \$9.00 ex-ship, sellers.
 Labuan Lump ...\$9.25 ex-ship sellers.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai 28th August, 1908, states:—Although it cannot be said that the market is in a worse state than it has been there is certainly no improvement. There is still the same demand, at a price, but unfortunately there has been nothing to stimulate that price. On the contrary, the continued fall in Cotton, both American and Indian, has the tendency to make buyers think that they can reasonably offer lower rates for goods now in stock, without calculating that it must be some months yet before the effect of the drop can be seen in the article produced, in fact will not be much before the Spring trade commences that cheaper production will be actually felt. Then, too, the effect of the lower Exchange must be remembered, as prices have by no means responded to the full extent of the difference in the laying down cost that has thus been effected, and consequently the drop has to a great extent been discounted. Locally the weather conditions have interfered somewhat with clearances, but on the whole they have been fairly satisfactory. From all sides splendid reports are coming in respecting the crops, and so far everything looks particularly rosy in that respect. In Manchuria nothing approaching the present prospects of agricultural prosperity has been seen for ten years. The outlook in the Tientsin district has greatly improved, and the floods are rapidly subsiding in the Yangtze Valley. Taking it altogether, therefore, things look very promising for the future, but that must be deferred until after the Mid Autumn festival, an important settling day which occurs about the middle of next month. A steamer is leaving for Corea tomorrow and is taking a fair quantity of Piece Goods from here. The effect of the drop in in Cotton on the Manchester market is not so far very severe, for the simple fact that it had already been discounted to a great extent in the price for "futures". The market is, however, distinctly easier, but just how much it is difficult to find out. Any way, operators here are inclined to hold back for the present. The Liverpool "spot" quotation for Mid American comes to-day 5.27d. and 5.23d. August, 4.67d. November/December, and 4.57d. for January, weak market. A decline has taken place in Egyptian to 7½d. The exports for the month from Manchester are anticipated to be much lighter. It is perhaps worth while, in view of this tremendous slump in Cotton recently, to recall the remarks made in the Manchester City News of 25th July, that, "those who watch the market carefully say that values in the finished article are by no means high, and that if cotton comes down later on in the year cloth prices, owing to the widespread short time, may not fall much lower. The progress if the new American crop is being watched daily, as is also news of the monsoon in India. The widespread short time must sooner or later tell a tale as to supply and demand." Beyond an intimation that prices for some makes are easier there does not appear to be very much doing in New York for this market. It is said Tientsin is still enquiring, but has not done anything of any importance so far, however it helps to keep the backs of manufacturers stiff. The latest Cotton quotations are 8.62 cents September, 8.54 cents October and 8.44 cents December option. During the earlier part of the interval the demand for yarn was very quiet the market relapsing into quite a depressed condition and holders showing distinctly a disposition to unload. Latterly, however, an enquiry for the River markets has sprung up, and although in some cases lower prices have been accepted, the sales show on the whole consider-

able steadiness. At the close, however, there is noticeable a growing disposition to realise, which may develop into distinct weakness, which is hardly justified at present with the rapidly decreasing stock and moderate prospective supplies. The local Cotton crop has, during the interval, enjoyed ideal weather and promises very well. Samples of Ningpo grown have been shown here and meet with high approval. As regards business from first hands the market remains practically at a standstill, beyond what we wrote last week may have been done in a retail way by holders who are anxious to get rid of their stocks and are willing to sacrifice them. The only actual sale from stock we have heard of is 1,500 pieces 12 lb. 36 in. Shirtings at Tls. 4.40. The Korean steamer clearing to-day is taking some 1,500 packages we understand, but almost the whole of it consists of goods already bought and held on native account. The clearances they cause will be welcome however, Tientsin has made some moderate purchases of American goods from second hand holders at about previous prices. In Drills we can quote Bangor Ox at Tls. 4.55, Paolet at Tls. 4.85 and Pepperell at Tls. 4.90, while Sheetings are finding buyers in small quantities for the same market at Tls. 4.25 for 3 yard, Tls. 4.05 for 3.25 yard. Tls. 3.82½ for 4 yard and Tls. 3.40 for yard makes. Newchwang is quieter at the moment owing to a reaction in Exchange on this, although we hear quite good profits are being earned on some makes of goods. A good time is looked for in that quarter in the near future. Cotton Flannels have met with some attention. Tremont A. at Tls. 5.50, Tremont G. at Tls. 6.50, Indian Head at Tls. 4.55 and Owl (at Auction) at Tls. 4.50 we are constantly hearing of sensational transactions that are taking place in Fancies, and if they do actually occur they must be described as that, but it is difficult to follow them. If the consumption does not increase under the present circumstances it is doubtful if it ever will, for the goods are relatively very cheap, at the prices they are realising and yet the deliveries of both Prints and Dyed Fancies show a falling off so far this year. At the Auctions this week steady to firm prices have been paid on the whole. Light weight Grey Shirtings were steady to firm, while the medium and heavier weights were inclined to be irregular, though not showing much change one way or the other. White Shirtings went at distinctly firmer prices throughout while Irishes were irregular. T. Cloths and Jeans were both firmer in the light weights, but the reverse in most of the heavier cloths. Turkey Reds have been inclined to drop during the week, but at this morning's sale were distinctly firmer. Fast Black Italians and Sateens have shown some discrepancies at the sales, but on the whole must be considered firmer, as also the Black Venetians. Coloured are not in much request at any price. Woollens are disappointing, Spanish Stripes leading off with a slight decline, followed by the leading colours in Camlet, some of the Chow Chow colours of the latter, especially Pink being a little firmer, Long Ells realised steady prices, and Lastings were consistently firm throughout.

HONGKONG PRICES CURRENT.

HONGKONG, 5th September, 1908.			
COTTON PIECE GOODS—			
Grey Shirtings—8 lbs.	piece \$	—	\$—
7 lbs.		2.25	to 2.50
8.4 lbs.		3.10	to 4.10
10 lbs.		4.00	to 5.40
White Shirtings—54/56 reed ..		2.85	to 3.50
58/60 ..		3.50	to 5.90
64/66 ..		6.00	to 6.75
Fine.....		8.00	to 9.25
Book-folds ..		5.50	to 6.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ..		0.60	to 1.75
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y ..		2.00	to 2.20
7 lbs.		2.30	to 3.35
6 lbs.	"Mexicans..	—	—
7 lbs.		3.35	to 3.85
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..		3.25	to 4.15
Drills, English—40 yds., 18½		4.50	to 5.20
to 14 lbs. }			
FANCY COTTONS—			
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to }		\$1.35	to \$4.25
6 lbs. piece }			
Brocades—Dyed	yard	0.11	to 14.75
Chinese—Assorted		0.90	to 00.25
Velvets—Black, 22 in.,		0.27½	to 0.55
Velveteens—18 in.,		0.50	to 0.27
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk doz		0.60	to 2.50

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	yard	\$0.70	to \$2.00
German,		0.50	to 0.65
Habit, Medium & Broad Cloths ..		1.05	to 2.00
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-9 lbs. piece		5.25	to 9.50
Assorted		7.25	to 9.00
Camlets—Assorted		12.00	to 30.00
Lastings—30 yds. 81 inches }		13.50	to 21.00
Assorted			
Orleans—Flain		9.50	to 11.00
Blankets—8 to 12	lbs.	0.60	to 1.40
RAW COTTON—			
Bombay	picul	\$20.00	to \$21.00
Bengal (New), Rangoon			
and Dacca		24.40	to 2.450
Shanghai and Japanese ..		26.00	to 27.00
Tungchow and Ningpo ..		26.00	to 27.00

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod	picul	\$ 4.15	
Square, Flat, Round Bar (Eng.)...		4.10	
Swedish Bar		4.20	
Small Round Rod		4.60	
Hoop, ½ to 1½ in.		5.80	
Wire, 16/25 oz.,		9.80	
Old Wire Rope		8.00	
Lead—L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..		—	
Australian		8,859.00	
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/23 oz.		38.00	
Vivian's, 16/32 oz., ..		38.00	
Elliot's, 16/28 oz.		38.00	
Tin,		85.00	
Tin-Plates,	box	8.80	
Steel	owt. case	—	

MISCELLANEOUS—

Quicksilver,	picul	160.00	to 160.00
Window Glass,	box	4.25	
Kerosene Oil,	case	—	
Saltpetre, No. 1	picul	\$11.00	to 11.70
Do. No. 2		100.0	to 10.80
Do. No. 3		9.40	to 9.80

WHEATEN FLOUR—

Dayton, per bag of 50 lbs.	gross	\$2.27	
Crown		3.00	
Crescent		2.12	
Orient		2.07	
Brown Bear		2.25	
White Bear		2.25	
Warrior,		2.25	
Triumph		2.25	
Choice		2.34	
White Lily		2.34	
Morjon		2.34	
Morning Glorg		2.36	
White Fawn		2.34	
Cow		2.34	
Gold Fan		2.60	
Chees		2.82	
Stove		2.82	
T.H.L.		2.82	
Gexcomb		2.82	
Sperry's XXX		3.05	
Pioneer		2.60	
Charm		2.30	
Junk		2.30	
Dog		2.20	
Cash		2.30	
Pride of the West		2.10	
Franklin		2.05	
Chair		2.20	
Happy		2.30	
Starr		2.35	
Pearless		2.21	
Kilin		2.21	
White Lily		2.27	
White Fawn		2.27	
Blue Ribbon		2.30	
Reardon		2.30	
White Rose		2.30	
Choice		2.27	
Serene Sky		2.28	
Stove		2.25	
Dayton		2.21	
Gluten		2.24	
Lobston		2.24	
Fairy Peach		2.23	
The Boss		2.23	
Mowtan Peony		2.21	
Thrush		2.21	
Three Sheep		2.21	
High Tuft		2.21	
Cat		2.57	

EXPORTS:—

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 6th September:—The price is going downward, there being no market. Quotations are \$35.00 to \$34.50.

SILK.

YOKOHAMA, 15th August.—The market for raw silk has steadily advanced since the last report and closes firm. The arrivals of waste silk to date are very small and the stock does not increase. A few transactions have been done in Kikai Kibizzo, and prices at the close are very firm for this class of waste. Habulai.—Continued firmness has been the feature of Kanazawa since the commencement of the month, some weights showing an advance of two per cent. This is more probably due to the activity of the silk market rather than to any particular enquiries from abroad. All weights and qualities show in Echizen a strong advance, particularly lighter textures, but business has been abnormally quiet. There is no change of any importance to note in the market for Kawamata.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS

Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.'s Fortnightly Produce Circular, dated Shanghai, 24th August, 1908, states:—Gallnuts.—Some orders have been placed for forward delivery, there is no spot cargo left. Cowhides.—Season closed. Feathers.—A steady demand continues, without change in prices. Cotton.—The new crop is coming on well, and the season is expected to open early. Rather lower prices are anticipated. Strawbraid.—Price of Loyeh and Kwongchow, white continues to advance and the small lots coming forward find a ready market. The demand for Fine 7-end Split Shingkee White and Laichow, Mottled continues;—stocks of same are nil and arrivals very small. Prices firm. Wool.—heaps.—Very little business, prices firm. Wood Oil.—A little doing, price a trifle easier. Antimony.—There is a small business all the time at slightly varying prices.

Per steamer *Albenga*, sailed on 21st August, For New York:—1 case sundries, 1 case silver ware, 3 cases wood ware, 10 cases paper, 11 cases china ware, 21 cases blackwood ware, 25 cases bristles, 30 cases human hair, 50 cases cassia, 50 cases camphor, 240 cases essential oil, 285 bales rattan ware, 280 bales old rubber, 300 cases preserves, 410 bales canes, 1,200 bales cassia, 1,413 cases fire crackers, 2,061 packages chinese cargo. For Boston:—43 cases china ware, 5,890 rolls matting. For Boston and New York:—500 bales broken cassia. For Philadelphia:—51 packages Chinese cargo. For Baltimore:—19 packages private effects.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 4th September, 1908.—There has been no material change in the general condition of our market during the past week, and business still continues very restricted. Barsilver has receded to 23½d., and T.T. on London to 1/9½. Shanghai T.T. remains at 75.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been done in small lots at \$750 and \$752½, and close with small buyers at \$750. The London rate has advanced to 278. 10. 0. Nationals are without change at \$51 buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions after touching \$745 have hardened and close with sales at \$750. North Chinas continue in request at Tls. 80, and Yangtses at \$160. There are sellers of Cantons at the reduced rate of \$215.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong have firmed up and are now in request at \$315. Chinas are still wanted in a small way at \$92½.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been booked at \$27½ and close steady at the rate. Douglases are easier with sellers at \$38, and China and Manila continue on offer at \$15. St. r Ferries (n-w) are still enquired for at \$15, and Shell Transports at 44a.

REFINERIES.—Quotations are without change, and there is no business to report.

MINING.—No change is reported in quotations, but Raubs could probably be placed at \$7.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have weakened and shares are now procurable at \$97. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are firmer with buyers at \$46, Shanghai Docks are wanted at the north at Tls 85. Hongkew Wharves, however, have declined to Tls. 70 with sellers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—West Points have been booked at \$46, but otherwise

no business has been transacted in this section. Humphreys' Estates have declined to \$94 sellers, and Shanghai Lands to Tls. 117. Hongkong Hotels are quoted at \$80 nominal.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have declined to Tls. 61; the other Northern Mills are however unchanged. Hongkongs have been booked at \$11.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cement has been booked at \$10 ex the interim dividend of 40 cents per share on account of 1908 paid on the 31st ultimo. Electric have been done at \$16½ and Peak Tramways (new) at \$2. There are buyers of China Providents at \$9½, Dairy Farms at \$19½, and United Asbestos at \$13. China-Borneos are procurable at \$10½. Ropes at \$24, Union Waterboats at \$10½, and China Light and Powers at \$6½. Langkats have advanced in the North to Tls. 600 buyers.

Quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS
Alhambra	Ps. 200	Nominal
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$750, buyers
National B. of China	28	\$51, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	12s. 6d.	\$7
China-Borneo Co.	12	\$10½, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	{ \$10 \$1 }	\$6½
China Provident	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 61
Hongkong	\$10	\$11, sales
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 67
Laon Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 85
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 242½
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$19½, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$46, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$97, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$8½	\$9½, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 85
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 172½
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$12, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$10
Hongkong & C. Gas	210	\$185
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$16½, sales
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$80
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$231
H. K. Milling Co., Ltd.	\$100	Nominal
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$24, sellers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$215, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$92½, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$86½
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$315, buyers
North China	25	Tls 80, buyers
Union	\$100	\$750, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$160, buyers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$94
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$27, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 117
West Point Building	\$50	\$46, sales
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$580, buyers
Raubs	18/10	\$7½
Peak Tramways	{ \$10 \$1 }	\$14 \$2, sales
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$180, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$22
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$38, sellers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$27½
Indo-China S. N. Co.	25	{ \$25 \$20 }
Shell Transport Co.	21	44/- buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$25, sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$15, buyers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$23, sales
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$5½
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$9, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$4
Watkins	\$10	\$3
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$4
Wiesmann Ltd.	\$100	\$150
United Asbestos	\$4	\$13, buyers
Do. Founders	\$10	\$250, buyers
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$10½, sellers

SMYTH & VERNON & Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

7th September, 1908.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks:—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$760, sales
National of China	28	\$51, buyers
Russo-Chinese	{ R187½ T125 }	Tls. 175, sellers
Insurance:—		
Union Society C'ton	\$100	\$790, sellers
North-China	25	Tls. 78, buyers
Yangtze Assocn.	\$80	\$168, sales
Canton	\$50	\$225, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$312½, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$92, buyers
Shipping:—		
Indo - China { pref. def. }	210	Tls. 28½, buyers
Shell Trans. { ord. & Trading { pref. S'hai Tug & { ord. Lighter ... { pref. }	21 10 T50	Tls. 18½, buyers \$25.50, sellers \$29.10, sellers Tls. 47, sellers Tls. 51, buyers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 48, sellers
Kochien Transport- ation & Tow Boat	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Eng.	T100	Tls. 84, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$105, sellers
S. & H'kew Wharf	T100	Tls. 167½, sellers
H. K'loon W. & G.	\$50	\$47, sellers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 217½, sellers
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation	T50	Tls. 92½, sellers
China Refining	\$100	\$182½, sellers
Mining:—		
Raub Australian	{ 21 18/10 }	{ \$8, sellers Tls. 15½, buyers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	21	
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment	T50	Tls. 117, sales
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$99, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$104, sellers
Weihaiwei	T25	\$9, sellers
China	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 100½, sellers
Cotton:—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 64, sellers
International	T75	Tls. 67, sellers
Laon Kung Mow	T100	Tls. 85, sellers
Soy Chee	T500	Tls. 242½, sellers
H'kong C. S. W. D.	\$10	\$9, buyers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 114, buyers
Major Brothers	T50	Tls. 51½, sales
Shanghai Ice	T25	Tls. 14, sellers
China Flour Mill	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 53½, buyers
Green Is. Cement	\$10	\$11, sellers
Maatschappij, & Co. in Langkat	Gs. 100	Tls. 560, buyers
Shanghai - Sumatra Tobacco	T20	Tls. 95, buyers
S'hai Waterworks	220	Tls. 395, ex div.
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	100	\$85, buyers
A. Butler Cement, Tile Works	50	\$30, sellers
Kalumpang Rubber	50	Tls. 56½, sellers
Eastern Fibre	10	nominal
Shanghai Electric Construction	210	\$9.12.6, sellers
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Moltz	\$20	\$20, buyers
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$48, buyers
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$11½, sellers
Central Ordinary	\$15	\$12, sellers
Central Founders	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co.	\$50	\$47, sellers
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$21½, buyers
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$17, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$98, sellers
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 6, sellers
Tsingtao Hotel	\$100	nominal
Lane, Crawford & Co.	100	\$150, sellers
Dunning & Co.	50	\$47½, sellers
S'hai Horse Bazaar	T50	Tls. 42½, sales
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 59, sellers
China Im. & Ex. Lumber	T100	Tls. 85, sellers
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	\$25	\$23, sellers
Dallas Horse Rep- pository	T50	Tls. 25, sellers
Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50, sellers

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending August 27th, 1908, states:— Since our last there has been very little business to report. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves have had some attention at about the prices that prevailed last week, and a rise of Tls. 5 has taken place in Maatschappij, etc., in Langkats. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks. The dividend of £2 having been paid this week, shares were quoted as \$763 ex div. There are a few small lots on the market at the close at \$760. Yangtze Insurance Association. Shares have changed hands freely at \$168 with exchange 78. Shipping.—Shell Transport and Trading Co. A sale has been made at 45/- with exchange 2/4. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. No transactions are reported this week. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co. The market opened with sales at Tls. 160 for September and on the 22nd this rate still prevailed for business. On the 24th, however, a good demand set in and prices advanced to Tls. 165 for September, followed by sales at Tls. 167½ and Tls. 170. We would quote the rate at closing as Tls. 166 cash and Tls. 167½ for September and December. Sugars.—Nothing reported. Mining.—Nothing reported. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment Company shares have declined to Tls. 117. There are small lots for sale at this figure. Industrial.—Cotton shares. There is nothing reported this week. Shanghai Gas Co. have buyers at Tls. 114. Shanghai Pulp and Paper Co. have improved to Tls. 52½ for cash and at this figure shares are wanted. Green Island Cements have changed hands at \$11. Maatschappij, etc., in Langkats. After business at Tls. 555 for cash was done a demand set in and shares were taken off the market at Tls. 560 and there were buyers at this figure. For September Tls. 565 and Tls. 567½ are both reported. Shanghai Electric Construction Co. Shares are marked down to £9.12/6. Miscellaneous.—Very little business has been done and rates are as appended below. Loans and Debentures.—There are no transaction reported this week.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, September 4th

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	222½
Credits 4 months' sight	227
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	180½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	42½
Credits, 60 days' sight	44½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	133
Bank, on demand	133½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	133
Bank on demand	133½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	75½
Private, 30 days' sight	75½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	86½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	86½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	75½
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	106
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	10½ p.o. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	10½ p.o. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	86½
SWEDISHS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.15
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$58.75
BAR SILVER per oz	23½

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

		per cent.
Chinese	20 cents pieces...	\$6.15 discount.
"	10 " " "	7.00 "
Hongkong	20 " " "	5.80 "
"	10 " " "	5.80 "

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG 4th September.—Freights remain about the same as before. From Saigon to this, regular liners are booking cargo at 6 cents per picul to Philippines, and fixture reported 19 cents; to North Coast Java, several cargoes sublet at 20 cents per picul; to Singapore, and Japan, no demand. From Bangkok to Hongkong, nothing doing. From Newchwang to Canton, no charters reported, the bean market in Canton being very weak. Java to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul last. Coal freights are weak. From Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20; Canton, \$1.90, \$2. The following are the settlements:—

Amara—British steamer, 1,566 tons, Wakanatsu to Swatow (1,400 tons), \$1.95, balance Canton, \$2.00 per ton.

Fiume—German steamer, 838 tons, Labuan to Hongkong, \$2.00 per ton.

Germania—German steamer, 1,714 tons, Haiphong to Canton, \$1.80 per ton.

Spir—Norwegian steamer, 870 tons, hence to Saigon, \$1,700 lump sum.

Solstad—Norwegian steamer, 897 tons, Saigon to 1 port Philippines, 19 cents per picul.

Victoria—Swedish steamer, 988 tons, Nauchow to Hongkong and/or Manila, 27,000 piculs salt at 9 cents/34 cents per picul.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

August—	
28, America M., Jap. str., from San Francisco.	
28, Johanne, German str., from Haiphong.	
28, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.	
28, Mandasan M., Jap. str., from Kuchinotsu.	
28, Mansang, British str., from Sandakan.	
28, Taming, British str., from Manila.	
29, Changsha, British str., from Sydney.	
29, Haimun, British str., from Coast Ports.	
29, Vedia, British str., from Singapore.	
30, Ailsa Craig, British str., from Barry Dock.	
30, Aldenham, British str., from Australia.	
30, Glenroy, British str., from Shanghai.	
30, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
30, Loyal, German str., from Bangkok.	
30, Nanchang, British str., from Shanghai.	
30, Shoshu Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.	
30, Tydens, British str., from Liverpool.	
31, Dagny, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.	
31, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Marseilles.	
31, Flintshire, British str., from Shanghai.	
31, Hailan, French str., from Hoihow.	
31, Lamington, British str., from Hongay.	
31, Nikko Maru, Jap. str., from Australia.	
31, Sannuki Maru, Japanese str., from Japan.	
31, Singan, British str., from Haiphong.	
31, Tjikini, Dutch str., from Moji.	
31, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.	
31, Yarra, French str., from Yokohama.	
31, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.	
31, Zafro, British str., from Manila.	

September—	
1, Nicomedia, German str., from Portland.	
1, Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.	
1, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.	
2, Devanha, British str., from Bombay.	
2, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.	
2, Ithaka, German str., from Chinkiang.	
2, Joshin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.	
2, Knivsberg, German str., from Tourane.	
2, Lithuania, Russian str., from Singapore.	
2, Taishun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
2, Triumph, German str., from Hoihow.	
3, Benvenue, British str., from London.	
3, Huichow, British str., from Weihaiwei.	
3, Namsang, British str., from Calcutta.	
3, Ningchow, British str., from Manila.	
3, Arconia, Russian str., from Kobe.	
3, Borneo, German str., from Sandakan.	
3, K'ongwai, German str., from Swatow.	
3, Moyori Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.	
3, Reider, Norwegian str., from Moji.	
3, Shibetoro Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.	
3, Yatsing, British str., from Shanghai.	
3, Yunnan, British str., from Chinkiang.	

August—	
28, B'ngloe, British str., for Singapore.	
28, Chatham, British str., for Newcastle.	
28, Glenogle, British str., for Amoy.	
28, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.	

28, Kowloon, German str., for Tsingtan.	
28, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.	
28, Paklat, German str., for Swatow.	
28, Swanley, British str., for Durban.	
29, Fooshing, British str., for Foochow.	
29, Kaifong, British str., for Cebu.	
29, Koras, American str., for San Francisco.	
29, Rajaburi, German str., for Hoihow.	
29, Rubi, British str., for Manila.	
29, Tjimahi, Dutch str., for Shanghai.	
29, Yingchow, British str., for Amoy.	
30, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.	
30, Kueichow, British str., for Swatow.	
30, Mandasan M., Jap. str., for Kuchinotsu.	
30, Strathendrick, British str., for Saigon.	
30, Ujina Maru, Jap. str., for Sourabaya.	
31, Glenroy, British str., for Haiphong.	
31, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.	
31, Japan, British str., for Shanghai.	

September—

1, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.	
1, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., for Shanghai.	
1, Flintshire, British str., for Saigon.	
1, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.	
1, Iyo Maru, Jap. str., for Seattle, &c.	
1, Johanne, German str., for Swatow.	
1, Samsen, German str., for Swatow.	
1, Taming, British str., for Manila.	
1, Tydens, British str., for Moji.	
1, Yarra, French str., for Europe, &c.	
2, Aldenham, British str., for Moji.	
2, Amigo, German str., for Hoihow.	
2, Changsha, Br. str., for Manila & Australia.	
2, Cheongching, British str., for Swatow.	
2, Devanha, British str., for Shanghai.	
2, Hopsang, British str., for Saigon.	
2, Keemun, British str., for Saigon.	
2, Laisang, British str., for Singapore.	
2, Nikko Maru, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.	
2, Sannuki Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.	
2, Shoshu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.	
2, Vedia, British str., for Palambang.	
3, Singan, British str., for Hoihow.	
3, Spir, Norwegian str., for Saigon.	
3, Sangkiang, British str., for Amoy.	
3, Victoria, Swedish str., for K. C. Wan.	

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Aldenham, from Australia, &c., Mr and Mrs Mitchell, Mrs C. Gow, Messrs. E. Collins, Currie, Nowland and Coffey.

Per Devanha, for Hongkong, from London, Messrs. S. Hore, W. A. Rundell, Robert Stubbs and Robert Grant; from Bombay, Mr M. B. Godaja; from Colombo, Sergt. and Mrs H. Baker and child; from Penang, Mr and Mrs Miles, infant and 2 servants; from Singapore Mr and (2) Misses M. T. Machado and two children, Mrs Reed, Messrs. Denman Fuller, A. M. Thompson, J. Gonsalves, J. Percort, F. Keating; A. Nello, A. de Castro and R. C. Holloway; for Shanghai, from London, Mrs and Miss J. Horrocks, and Mr G. B. Mills; from Bombay, Mrs Blumenthal and infant, Mr R. B. Cooper; from Singapore, Mr and Mrs R. Kallish, Dr. W. C. Hoish, and Mr M. C. Kwok; for Kobe, from Singapore, Mr E. A. Hilles; for Yokohama, from London, Messrs. H. O. Holt and J. R. Johnson; from Marseilles, Mr Kalka.

DEPARTED.

Per Rubi, for Manila, Mr and Mrs J. Sloan, Mr and Mrs J. F. Bell, Mrs H. E. Gilroy and 2 children, Mrs B. Holly, Mrs Kiri Hashida, Mrs G. Alasco, Mrs A. Gough, Misses S. Raymond, S. Smythe, V. H. Sawyer & W. Hunter, Messrs. J. C. Tow, D. Dorward, E. Killer, V. E. Miller, J. Kinio, M. Aboneonant, G. Knut, H. Johnston, J. C. Marshall, A. F. Allen, T. Gribayedoff, J. Sweeney, F. A. Dalburg, B. E. Mills, J. Clark, J. Shaw, J. Dougherty, E. Oliver, T. T. James, J. Jefferies, A. Barretto, V. Fragante, A. Paulen, R. Agcailli, T. Padua, T. Baltasar, A. Guerrero, F. Valencia, L. Hidrosollo, A. Formosa, F. de la Paz, Lino Arresa, V. Borge, M. Roco, E. Quisumbing, P. Layco, V. Manalo, S. Aposto, A. G. Sison, F. M. Swift, W. B. Knight, C. T. Barry, Z. Rocha and C. Torre Graeco.

Printed and published by BERTHAM AUGUSTUS HAIN, for the Concerned, at 10A, Des Voeux Road Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong. London Office, 181, Fleet Street, E.C.